

Pull out the 1997-'98 Basketball Preview

# The gw Hatchet

An Independent Student Newspaper  
www.gwhatchet.com

## Wise guy, eh?

GW's teeming population of comedians gives rise to a second improv troupe.

Spotlight, p. 7



## Segregated diversity

GW's cliques care about no one but themselves.

Opinions, p. 4



## The fifth heartbreak

The GW women's soccer team was eliminated from the A-10 Tournament by UMass for the fifth consecutive year.

Sports, p. 11

Vol. 94 No. 30

Serving The George Washington University Community Since 1904

Monday, November 10, 1997

## SA commission takes on tuition issue

by Matthew Katz  
Hatchet Staff Writer

The expected introduction this week of a resolution to create a Student Association tuition task force marks another step in this year's student-led push for a lower tuition increase and more discussion on University financial issues.

The SA Senate will introduce a proposed amendment to its bylaws

Tuesday to form the Tuition Action Commission. The bill's sponsors said they hope the commission will increase student input in the administration's tuition allocation process.

"Many of us in the SA feel we need a mechanism to address the way our money is spent," said undergraduate Sen. Jason Haber (CSAS), co-sponsor of the bill. "On an issue like tuition that's so important, we feel something should be in

the bylaws of our constitution that requires the SA to act on behalf of the students on this issue."

Haber said last year's tuition increase, coupled with constant student questions about the administration's use of student fees, triggered the creation of the commission.

He said he expects the commission to be "fact finding and information gathering," providing the SA with fuel to pass resolutions in an

attempt to influence the administration's fiscal decisions.

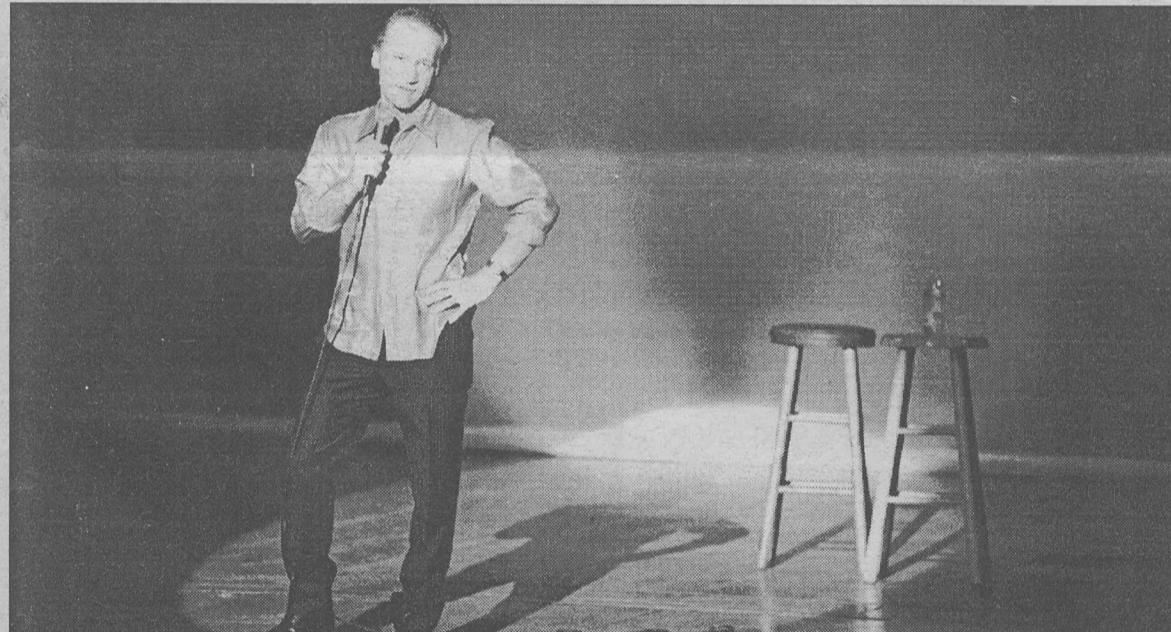
"When we're uninformed about the issue, we can't do any good, we can't help anyone. And right now, we know so little information," Haber said.

Students Against Yearly Increases in Tuition (SAYIT), an independent student activist group, was formed last spring in response

(See SA, p. 10)

### GW tuition

1997-98	\$21,360
1996-97	\$19,980
1995-96	\$19,032
1994-95	\$18,295
1993-94	\$17,113



"Politically Incorrect" host Bill Maher took the stage at Lisner Auditorium Thursday, performing his stand-up routine to a full house.

## SJT recruits GW's next generation

### Trachtenberg offers 48 District students a tuition-free education

by Monique L. Harding  
News Editor

GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg offered 48 students at a District junior high a free ride to GW when they begin applying to college in five years.

Trachtenberg spent an hour last month with seventh and eighth-graders at Northwest Washington's Paul Junior High School as part of Teach for America Week.

The students thought he would teach a math lesson, but instead he offered them a tuition-free GW education.

He said, however, that the offer is not without limits — students must first be accepted to GW on the merit of their high school records and test scores.

Rhoda Fischer, special assistant to the president, said Trachtenberg's promise of a free college education is an investment in the city's future and an example to other District organizations.

"He hopes this will be an example to other institutions and corporations," Fischer said.

Paul Junior High opened three weeks late this fall after roof repairs kept it and many other District schools from opening on time. Two weeks after it opened its doors, Paul closed again for more roof repairs. The school did not reopen until Oct. 27, according to a Washington Post article.

Trachtenberg said the Paul students inspired him because they are willing to learn amidst the confusion they faced this fall.

"They gave you faith. These

youngsters missed school because of roof problems. They were moving from building to building, yet they were bright and attentive," he said.

Natalie Gordon, a seventh-grade English teacher at Paul, said the students were excited to receive Trachtenberg's offer.

"They always do their work and this offer is even more incentive for them. It's a greater opportunity to seek a college education. Some of them may have been concerned about going to college because of



Stephen Joel Trachtenberg

(See GW, p. 10)

## Panel sets goals for new SASS setup

### Committee addresses students' needs

by Matt Berger  
Asst. News Editor

Technology, customer service and student life services will be the major priorities of a Student and Academic Support Services strategic planning committee as it draws up recommendations to present to the Board of Trustees this winter.

The panel, led by Assistant Vice President for SASS Special Services LeNorman Strong and including student and faculty representatives, was created earlier this semester after the division underwent a massive reorganization that SASS officials say will make it more responsive to student needs.

Dubbed by administrators as the "Troika," the committee is examining the needs of different constituencies within the student population and attempting to identify priorities for funding and improvements.

"Our main focus is to look simultaneously at two important issues — what SASS is doing now ... and at the same time get feedback from the University community about the perception of SASS and what students need," Strong said.

Robert Chernak, the University's vice president for SASS, set the strategic planning committee's priorities at its meeting Friday.

"We should set an example for other units in the University that collective efforts can result in better decision making," Chernak said. "A lot of issues this group will be engaging in are focused on what SASS is and what it should be."

Chernak called the process "outcome oriented" and said he is excited about the chance to change the way SASS works with students.

"We're going to have to make

some hard decisions for allocations," Chernak said. "We will adjust our needs in alignment with students' wants."

At Friday's meeting, the committee pointed to technology as one of its first priorities.

Douglas Gale, assistant vice president for information systems and services, said the percentage of GW's budget spent on academic computing is average for a university of its size.

"In our case, average is probably good enough," Gale said.

He admitted that GW is behind the technology curve, adding that 76 percent of schools in GW's "market basket" — schools with services comparable to GW's and to which GW students often apply — have wired residence halls.

Group members had suggested other topics to concentrate on, which were merged into two larger sub-heads: customer service and student life services.

A Web page soon will be introduced featuring a survey that will allow students and staff to express comments and concerns about SASS's involvement in University life.

Strong said the group will use the information gleaned from the Web site to help it choose priorities.

All meetings of the strategic planning committee are open, and participation from all University community members is encouraged, Strong said.

Strong said the committee will present its final recommendations in February.

"The recommendations, if enacted, will significantly enhance student life and increase the impact of the GW educational experience on its students," Strong said.

# Open letter to President Trachtenberg on Commencement

November 10, 1997

Dear President Trachtenberg:

I have lived at GW for the last three years. I am an ordinary senior, majoring in philosophy. I will graduate on time this May. You have never met me, or anyone like me.

I had many offers from many different colleges as a high school senior. The financial aid packages were significantly better than what you offered me, but I saw the brochures. And the videos. And I was hooked.

Through the coldest Minnesota win-

ter of recent record, I saw Foggy Bottom in spring, with happy coeds swaying to a beat that I had never heard, a spring in their step as they went to class. I saw Hillary Clinton give a Commencement address in the shadow of the White House and I saw happy GW graduates, ready to face the world.

When I arrived here as a freshman, I (as well as many others) wanted to change the world and major in political science. I wanted to have an internship on the Hill. I wanted to be a player in a smoke-filled room.

I wanted to live the life that the

brochures you sent me promised. I wanted to live on a diverse campus, where everybody knew my name and I would serve ice cream under a bust of George Washington.

I suffered through my freshman advising workshop with an ill-matched professor. I suffered through my freshman year with an ill-matched suite of roommates in Adams Hall. I stayed quiet when my RA told me she was too busy to answer a problem of mine.

I took the English 11 courses of feminist thinking unharmed. I wrote my Weimar paper and I listened intently

when Professor Sodaro berated a roomful of freshmen he alleged could not write.

I received number 2975 out of 3100 when I went through my first housing lottery. I slunk quietly to Mitchell Hall for my sophomore year. I lived in a box all that year. It took 20 minutes to get to the Academic Center for a class.

When my home burned down on Labor Day, 1996, I was not able to pay my tuition bills on time. You told me that you were sorry, but you wanted the money. You told my family that after suffering from such a terrible tragedy, my aid would be increased to compensate for losing everything. You increased my aid by \$350.

Now, as a senior, you have told me that you wish to move my graduation to the MCI Center to save money for the good of the University. You tell me that the MCI Center will be a more cost-effective plan for graduation, because of the possible bad weather involved.

As angry as I am right now, I will try to say this as plainly as possible to you: You will not hold graduation any place other than the Ellipse for the class of 1998. Let me tell you why.

My student leadership, no matter how flawed or how impotent it may seem, will fight you. If someone

would just lead us, if someone would say "no," we would rally around them, and we would fight for what we deserve, what you promised us.

If no student leader offers resistance to you, then I will. I will take it upon myself to take away your graduation in your building. I will do everything in my power to make sure it never happens.

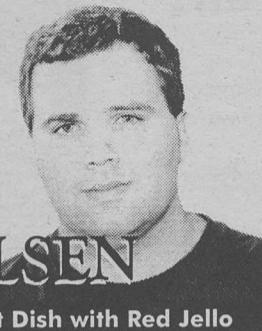
Can you afford to take that chance? Can you dismiss me as only one student, a raving idiot? Do you know how much one student can do? I don't. I know many other students who feel the same. And parents. And alumni. And we will all fight you together.

I am a tolerant man. I will give you the chance to do the right thing and to keep your promise to me, and to your entire student body. I know you can make it happen. But if you don't, answer one question for me, please: "What if I held graduation in the MCI Center next May and nobody came?"

Perhaps you are a good man at heart, and understand what breaking your promise means to the senior class. Perhaps you can see that after four years of broken promises, I won't let you break this one. Graduation on the Ellipse. No matter what the cost. Because you owe me.

Sincerely,

Trygve W. Olsen  
P.S. Have a nice day.



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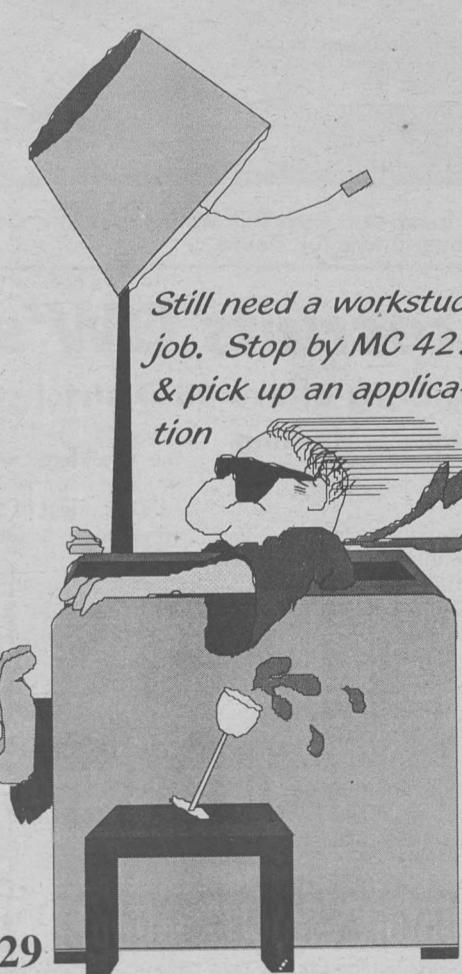
Tuesday at 7pm in MC 413

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Tuesday at 8:30pm in MC 429  
PB General mtg.  
Wednesday at 8:30pm in MC 429



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Applications for PB Treasurer are due Monday by 5:00pm in MC 429

# Jarvis stresses life lessons in 'last lecture'

by Seth Weinert  
Hatchet Staff Writer

Individualism and valuing one's selfhood were the major tenets of men's basketball Coach Mike Jarvis' "last lecture" Wednesday at Western Presbyterian Church.

Jarvis was the second speaker this semester in a lecture series that invites University notables to deliver a lecture as if it would be their last.

In his lecture, Jarvis described the important life lessons he learned during childhood from his mother and a baseball coach he called "Stretch."

Jarvis paused to honor his mother for raising four children by herself, and for giving him the opportunity to "play" when other kids his age were forced to get jobs.

Jarvis said "Stretch" implanted in him the value of hard work, practice, competition, winning and losing, in addition to teaching him the importance of being a team player.

"Each and every one of us can make a difference and positively affect somebody ... everyone is created by God for a special purpose," Jarvis said.

Jarvis earned his undergraduate degree from Northeastern University and his master's degree in education at Boston University.

Jarvis said his job as a basketball coach is to "try to get each and every player to be the best at each and every thing they do."

Jarvis said he hopes he has been able to accomplish that goal in his eight years at GW.

"Whether I do or not, I'd be the



Jay Crystal/asst. photo editor  
**Colonials basketball Coach Mike Jarvis gives his "last lecture" at Western Presbyterian Church Wednesday.**

last to know," he said. "My team realizes that it is very special and everyone has a great opportunity to get a great education at one of the best universities in the world.

"Coaches are teachers," Jarvis said. "If you emphasize the fundamentals of math, science or sport, then you've probably taught them fundamentals for life skills."

Jarvis offered one final piece of advice to the crowd of students, faculty and community members. "Try to find work that you don't look at as work. Try to find a profession that is your lifestyle. If you don't, you won't be truly happy."

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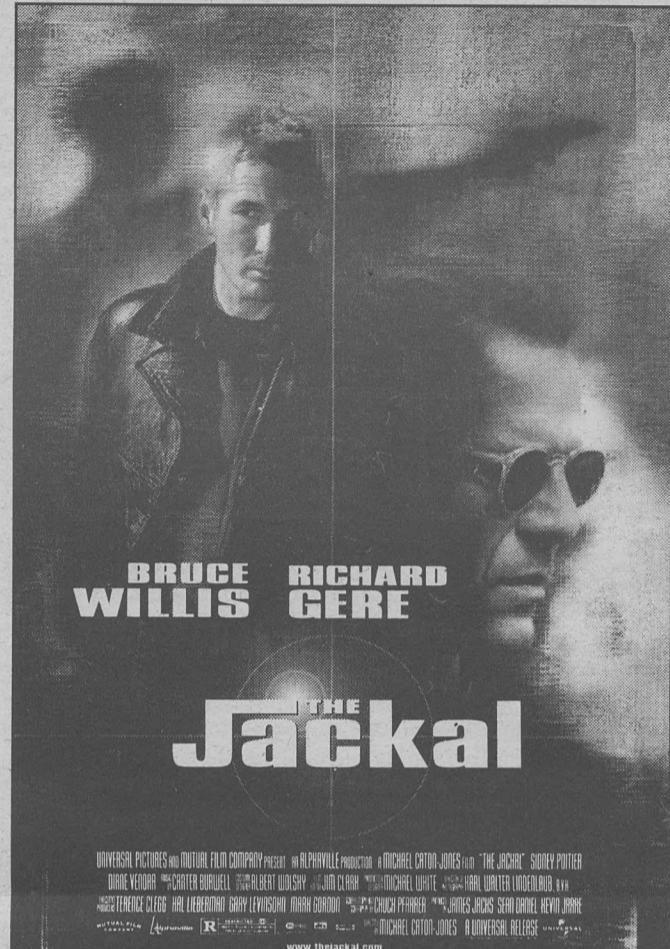
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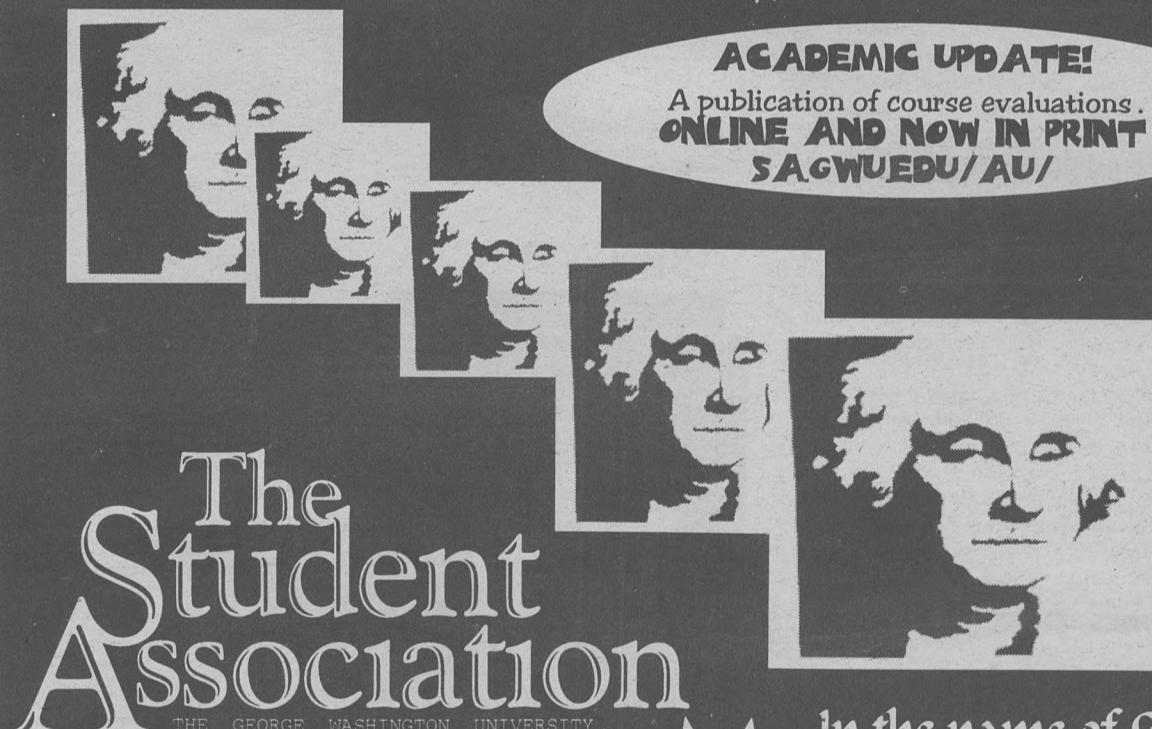


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**Hey GW,**  
**Do you want Graduation**  
**on the Ellipse?**  
Commencement  
Committee Town Hall Meeting:  
Nov. 18 Fngr 103  
7:30-9



## Good job, SJT

GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg recently went to Paul Junior High School, a public D.C. school, and made an offer to seventh and eighth-grade math students that they couldn't refuse. He promised them that if, at their completion of high school, they had the grades to be admitted to GW, their college tuition would be paid for by GW.

Trachtenberg's move is a welcome gesture. It shows that GW actually is playing a beneficial role in its community. The District of Columbia is in miserable shape. Many of the areas that are the local government's responsibility must try to survive with insufficient financial support. The most striking example is the D.C. public school system.

The months-long embarrassment over who is actually in charge of the public school system affected those who could least defend themselves in this city of bureaucratic red tape - the school children. Trachtenberg's action shows the necessity for community involvement. What the D.C. government could not give its children the community must try to make up.

Trachtenberg's pledge will also hopefully motivate other area universities and corporations to offer similar promises to local school children. Acts of altruism and civic-mindedness are rare occurrences in these days of downsizing and cost-benefit analyses; yet the impact that such acts can cause is immeasurable. Such pledges to other school children should not be made to garner free publicity; they should be done because people selflessly care.

## The return of Saddam

Saddam Hussein is back - and the world doesn't know what to do with him. The United States wants to punish him so that he will abide by United Nations sanctions imposed on Iraq after the Persian Gulf War. These sanctions allow U.N. inspectors to verify Iraq is not pursuing development of weapons of mass destruction. While the United States would prefer a diplomatic solution to end the stalemate, it has pointedly not ruled out the use of force. Just when the world thought it had nothing to worry about from Saddam, he's proved everyone wrong. Again.

Iraqi officials have prevented the U.N. inspection teams from carrying out their missions as long as the teams are comprised of a majority of Americans. The Iraqis also have interfered with U.N. cameras placed in suspected weapons development sites.

The United States plans to fly a U-2 spy plane, with U.N. approval, over suspected Iraqi weapons sites. Iraq has responded with threats to shoot down the plane supposedly violating its airspace. U.S. officials have responded that any attack against the plane would be an act of war.

Some of our key Gulf War allies, France, Russia, China and Egypt, are opposed to the use of force. Given that three of these countries are also permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, a U.N. resolution allowing the United States to use force will be hard to come by. So the United States is faced with the prospect of going at it alone. If it comes to that, the United States must do it.

The reason our allies are not too keen on using force is their assertion that sanctions in place since the end of the Gulf War have hurt only the Iraqi civilian population. Some of our allies' companies also have large contracts with Iraq that can begin only after the sanctions are lifted. It seems that some are more concerned with added revenues than with Iraqi capabilities for launching weapons of mass destruction.

The United States has the job, like it or not, of being the world's policeman. It is a responsibility that requires putting the importance of security over dollars. If Iraq fires on any U-2 plane, the United States has justification for retaliating. While our allies have images of larger treasures clouding their judgment, the United States must keep the overall issue of security as the basis for its decisions.

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# Opinions

4 The GW Hatchet, Monday, November 10, 1997

## GW campus: segregated diversity

George Washington University has one of the most diverse campuses in the United States. We have students here from just about every state, and many countries around the world. We all have different backgrounds, cultures, religions, ideas and interests. Even when you walk down the streets of GW's campus, you rarely hear the same language spoken with each step you take. The University even markets our diversity and uses it to lure in prospective students. In fact, that is one of the main reasons why I came to study at GW.

Personally, I come from a small hick town south of Fort Worth, Texas and I thought I could use a little diversity. I thought that I could learn so much about myself if I could just get on a campus like GW. It is really amazing how many different kinds of people are here. And I must admit that Thurston Hall was an extremely interesting and diverse experience. But as time went on, my dreams of diversity began to fade away. I started realizing that GW has a special kind of diversity that isn't much different from what I had back home in Texas.

I have learned a big difference

exists between having diversity, and having a diverse community. GW has diversity in its simplest form, and it has potential. However, a diverse community actually has diverse interaction. What I mean is all the efforts by GW admissions to promote GW diversity are fruitless. The school cannot have true diversity when the students don't even talk to each other. What we have at GW

**Chanler  
Langham**

is a special kind of diversity called segregated diversity.

Each group has its own little world and could care less about anyone else. The American students almost alienate the foreign ones and the foreign ones stay with their own kind. We all form a little clique at the beginning of school and we almost never come up for air. The cultural organizations rarely support each

### Letters/Op-ed Policy

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other, and when efforts are made, they usually fall through.

The worst part about it is that most GW students don't really care about our lack of diversity. They think that as long as they can stay in their own groups, then everything will be fine. We continue to form our little organizations that segregate our community, and we don't realize that it works toward our own demise. Segregated diversity is worse than no diversity because students might come to think that we are supposed to keep ourselves separated. At least with no diversity, we do not voluntarily keep ourselves segregated.

Many private schools with one ethnic or cultural background don't have the same diverse opportunities we do. In order to function in this country, we have to learn how to interact with people of all ethnic and cultural backgrounds. If not, we will make no progress. It is somewhat unfortunate that we segregate ourselves, we could actually learn a lot from diversity.

*-The writer is a junior majoring in East Asian studies and is president of Alpha Phi Alpha.*

## Maher's show just told it like it was

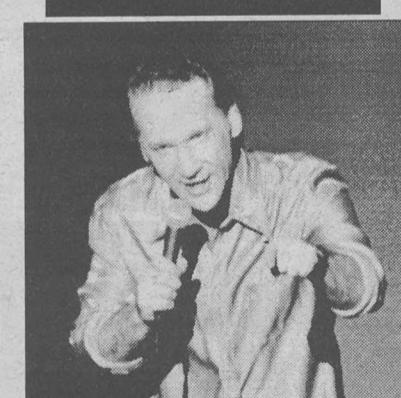
When I went to check out the Program Board's latest effort to entertain the GW masses last Thursday at Lisner Auditorium, I wasn't sure who Bill Maher actually was. "Bill who? A host? For Politically what?" were my exact words. But persuaded to do something a little more "cultural" than the weekly frat party or the nightly bar stop, I collected the burdensome \$10 and headed over to check out the funniest thing in D.C. since the Hippo was declared my class gift. (Hey freshmen, you may be starting off the new millennium, but we sophomores got George Washington's favorite river horse.)

My friends and I (a.k.a. Procrastinating Queens) waited to get tickets at the door, but to my surprise, the seats actually were pretty decent. We were in the front, to the far left of the stage. Though my neck is still sore from dodging my view around the interpreter for the hearing impaired, I could clearly catch every sparkle in Bill Maher's silver macramé shirt. Not a blazer and tie type of guy, he already caught my liberal interest.

While your idea of humor may not include Maher's "Politically Incorrect" approach at comedy, you still have to give the guy some credit. With comic acts on everything from tripping on shrooms to having sex on kitchen sinks, Maher covered it all, at least from a college student's perspective. He was fearlessly liberal, and sure, he made comments that could have been a little more sensi-

tive. (For example, in reference to Demi Moore being paid a million dollars to sleep with Robert Redford in *Indecent Proposal*, Maher asked, "What's the risk? Now, have her sleep with Magic Johnson, that's worth a million dollars.") But all in all, Maher's comic routine touched on ideas I'm sure others have thought but been afraid to say.

**Annie  
Nguyen**



Tyson Trish/editor in chief  
**Bill Maher**

Don't get me wrong - I didn't agree with everything Maher said and some of the issues (like giving Jews a break because Jesus was killed a long time ago) could have been more delicately handled, but that's the whole beauty of Maher's

work. As students of the '80s and '90s, we live in a society in which many people are afraid to speak their minds. And why, when it seems that speaking out on what you stand for seems to be such a trend?

It seems people fear that the obvious, crass truth is too much for others to bear. There's always a better way of saying something, a more politically correct way. What makes Maher admirable is that he stepped past this fear and rattled off his random thoughts. In a city like D.C., where the hard truth is sometimes manipulated to "save" the public from ... what? I'm not quite sure... Maher was asking to be martyred Thursday night.

Yes, I agree some of his jokes were crude, but to all who attended, and to all who missed out on one of the most interesting recent events put on by PB, I hope you can see that it was all humor and in a way, truthful. Your humor may exist in that gray state of political correctness, but to me, describing someone as "vertically challenged" just isn't as truthful, or funny, as "short."

So, if you ever get the chance to catch a Maher performance, don't look around first to see who else is laughing and who's sitting beside you that might be offended. Just let go of your fear of political incorrectness for a second and enjoy his show for what it's worth: offensive, truthful comedy.

*-The writer is senior production assistant at The GW Hatchet.*

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# Don't break promises!

When I was first deciding what college to attend, I saw GW's recruitment video. One of the things I remember best about this video was that at the end, it showed Commencement on the Ellipse, and smiles on everyone's faces. How about this for the next video to send to prospective students - Commencement at the MCI Center and scornful and angry faces on all of the graduates.

When I was a little kid, one of the things my parents instilled in me was to never break a promise. Isn't telling

**Brandon  
Moss**

prospective students (which we all were at one time) that we'll have graduation on the Ellipse more or less a promise? Wouldn't it then be unfair to break such a promise? Granted, the slap on the wrist or the warning from Mom and Dad wouldn't apply to this situation, but apparently GW has done what our parents told us not to do. After all, a promise is a promise, and graduation on the Ellipse follows suit.

So why can't the student body collectively, or individually, file suit for breach of contract in a court of law if GW intends to hold graduation elsewhere (at least for any of the four classes of students currently enrolled here). Or why doesn't the University look into ways to

accommodate the Ellipse graduation ceremony, such as by purchasing large tents? It seems that all I've heard is how GW wants to move the Ellipse graduation ceremony entirely away from its location of the past. And if the University doesn't want to have graduation on the Ellipse, then at least something better than the MCI Center (read: President Trachtenberg's house).

As for having a committee to look into the issue, I am surprised that the University didn't appoint the "real" concerned members of

the committee - all of us undergrads who were led into believing things at GW would be what the University promised us when we were deciding whether or not to come here.

All of the undergrads should more or less make up the committee on Commencement since it affects all of us, rather than a committee of figureheads and tools who most likely will be following the K-mart cost-cutting mindset of the University.

If GW wants to continue to uphold the little faith left in the minds of its students, it should start acting more like a caring academic institution than a money-hungry corporation.

-The writer is a sophomore majoring in economics.

# U.S. needs to rethink its foreign policy

Save for the War of 1812, has America ever fought a "just war" for her real national interest? During America's last conflict in the Persian Gulf, Pat Buchanan aptly described Kuwait as "an oil company with a seat at the United Nations." It should have been obvious to most Americans that the war we were fighting over this tiny Arab fiefdom was not in America's national interest. Yet the war drums kept beating.

As chairman of GW's conservative Young Americans for Freedom in 1991, a patriotic naivete overswept me as I led a weekly contingent of protesters to Lafayette Park. Our signs were blazing with "Turn Iraq Into Glass!" and "Kick Saddam's Ass!" Obviously, our real motivation for protesting was not for freedom and democracy in Kuwait; rather, we were incensed by the "anti-war" protesters chanting "No blood for oil!" In mature retrospect, I now realize I was on the wrong side.

But where are the pacifists today? Those traditional "peaceniks" of the Cold War days are certainly not preaching peace in Bill Clinton's "New World Order." Rather, today's pacifists are the populists of Middle America who are fed up with paying the price of foreign intervention with their blood, tears and taxes.

And today, there is a war scenario brewing that is far worse than the Gulf War. American soldiers are still stationed in foreign lands - from South Korea to Bosnia to Haiti - ready to shed their blood, not for God and

country, but for the amoral goals of globalism.

It is an all-too-familiar story written into America's history in which young American boys are the first to die in a bloody conflict planned by America's elites. And yet, the populist pacifists who suggest we put America's interests first and bring our troops home are derisively denounced by critics as "isolationists." Go figure.

If anything has accurately defined America's role in the post-Cold War era, it is the total absence of national

**Scott  
Lauf**

interest and moral principle in our misguided foreign policy. Let us be frank: Is any country in the world worth dying for? If the draft was reinstated, would today's MTV generation be cheering for war? Even if tomorrow, Israel was overrun by Syria, how many Jewish students would be putting on uniforms and beating the war drums at Hillel? Not many.

As our government continues to lay the tripwires of war in tinhorn countries around the world, voices in the heartland are asking why it is always Americans who must sacrifice. Why should 37,000 Americans in

South Korea be the first to die if North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il invades the South? Why are 8,000 Americans still in Bosnia, donning U.N. "blue helmets" and acting as multicultural educators in a cauldron of 700 years of ethnic hatred? Why should tens of thousands of Americans defend all of Europe in perpetuity with the provocative and dangerous expansion of NATO?

These questions deserve a response from our corrupt commander in chief and from our complacent Congress, unwilling to reassert its constitutional authority in foreign policy.

The Cold War is over. Are we not the victors? The time is long overdue to bring all our troops home. In the process, we should assist our allies in creating structures to defend themselves. Our new policy must be clear: The United States will no longer waste lives and dollars unless American citizenry or soil is directly threatened.

As we enter the 21st century, we ought to think not only of America and Americans first, but of true, moral peace. Let us heed the sage advice of George Washington - the namesake of this institution - in his famous Farewell Address in which he warned about the consequences of foreign wars: "The peace often, sometimes perhaps the liberty of nations, has been the victim."

-The writer received his M.A. in international affairs from GW in 1996 and a B.A. in international affairs in 1993.

# DO THIS!

## MONDAY, 11/10

Office for Study Abroad Info Session, 4:30pm, Stuart 104. Info? Alayne 994-1649.

Film: Good Morning, Babylon, Romance Languages and Literature Dept., 6pm, Gelman B04, free pizza, FREE. Info? Prof. Ferretti 994-6300.

Biology Club Lecture Series, find out about internships and more, 7pm, Strong Hall TV lounge. Info? Mary Ann 676-4920.

Colonials Exhibition, GW Men's vs. Around the World, 7:30pm, Smith Cntr, FREE. Info? 994-8584.

Missionary Impossible, Hillel, 7:30pm, MC 410. Info? Greg 994-5090 or Schofer@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu.

## TUESDAY, 11/11

Second Step Advising Session, Office for Study Abroad, 2:30pm, Stuart 104. Info? Alayne 994-1649.

Financial Assistance & Study Abroad Make-Up Session, Office for Study Abroad, 3:30pm, Stuart 103, students going abroad spring '98 who have financial assistance required to attend. Info? Alayne 994-1649.

Office for Study Abroad Evening Walk-in Hours, 7-8pm, Stuart 104. Info? Alayne 994-1649.

Presentation by Former Bengals & Redskins Lineman Tim Johnson, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, 7:30pm, Corcoran 302, FREE. Info? Will 783-2663.

Grad Group Bowling, Jewish Grad Student Association, 8:30pm, MC 5th fl. Info? Doug 703-516-9631.

## WEDNESDAY, 11/12

Brown Bag Lecture "Bargaining for Barriers: The Role of Domestic Interest Groups in Chinese Trade Policy," by Dr. Mark Groombridge, ESIA, 12-1pm, Stuart 103, FREE. Info? Ilaya 994-4876.

# GW'S WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## SUNDAY, 11/16

Clean Up Foggy Bottom, SA, 10am, MC Ballroom. Info? Adam 994-7100.

FYSH in Space, Hillel & FYSH, Smithsonian Star Wars exhibit & dinner at Planet Hollywood, 1:30pm, 2300 H St, cost of dinner. Info? Shira 994-5413.

Production: Red Scare on Sunset, Forbidden Planet Productions, 8pm, Mitchell Hall Theatre, students \$3, non-students \$5. Info? George 676-7858 or cpac@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Monday, November 10 is the deadline for applications for Alternative Spring Break to Israel. Return applications to Hillel 2300 H St. Info? Greg 994-5090 or Schofer@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu.

Academic Update for Fall and Spring 97 now online at <http://sa.gwu.edu/au/>. Info? 994-7100.

ATTN undergrad poli sci majors & minors: Contact Poli Sci Mentor Outreach for a mentor & inclusion of our mailing list to learn about graduate life. Info? Emily 452-6288.

## SATURDAY, 11/15

"Feed the 5000," Presentation on being homeless followed by making/delivering bag lunches to the homeless community, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, 10am, 20th & G St. Info? Basil 676-7637.

Red Auerbach Colonial Classic, Consolation Game, 8pm, Smith Cntr, FREE. Info? 994-8584.

Production: The Complete Works of Shakespeare, Generic Theatre Company, 8pm, Downstage Lisner, \$3 students, \$5 non-student. Info? Ali 293-6241.

Production: Red Scare on Sunset, Forbidden Planet Productions, 8pm, Mitchell Hall Theatre, students \$3, non-students \$5. Info? George 676-7858 or cpac@gwis2.circ.gwu.edu.

Red Auerbach Colonial Classic, Championship Game, 8pm, Smith Cntr, FREE. Info? 994-8584.

**The George Washington University**  
WASHINGTON DC

DO THIS! is a calendar of GW-only events which will appear in each Monday issue of the GW Hatchet.

It is a free service provided by the office of Student & Academic Support Services Communication (SASSComm) for the GW community. To advertise your event, service, or program, please pick up & return a completed submission form to one of the following locations: SASSComm-- Rice 102, the Student Activities Center-- Marvin Center 427, or the Student Organization Resource Center-- Marvin Center 433D. The deadline for submission is Wednesday preceding publication of the Monday issue. For further information, contact SASSComm at 994-3840.

# imPRESSions

## Busta Rhymes gives rap back to fans

**W**hen Busta Rhymes' first single from his new album, "Put Your Hands Where My Eyes Can See" hit the radio, hip hop fans were concerned. It was phat, but was it real? Did Busta Rhymes fall victim to the lure of money, thinking that a style switch would boost his career?

Luckily, the answer is no. Busta Rhymes' new album, *When Disaster Strikes* (Flipmode/Elektra records) is real and tight. His style is new, but the wildness that hooked people back in the day is still there, with some crazy, new twists.

The first song says, "The whole world's looking at me/Watching and waiting to see/If I'll fulfill my destiny." If an artist's destiny is to

make an album showcasing his talent, highlighting his development into a better performer and taking on fellow industry heavyweights, then Busta Rhymes did even more than fated.

The 18 tracks on *When Disaster Strikes* feature the hard core lyrics expected. Other hip hop stars join Busta Rhymes on the album to pro-

duce great sounds. "One Love" features Erykah Badu, and Busta shares the spotlight with Puff Daddy and Mase in "Body Rock."

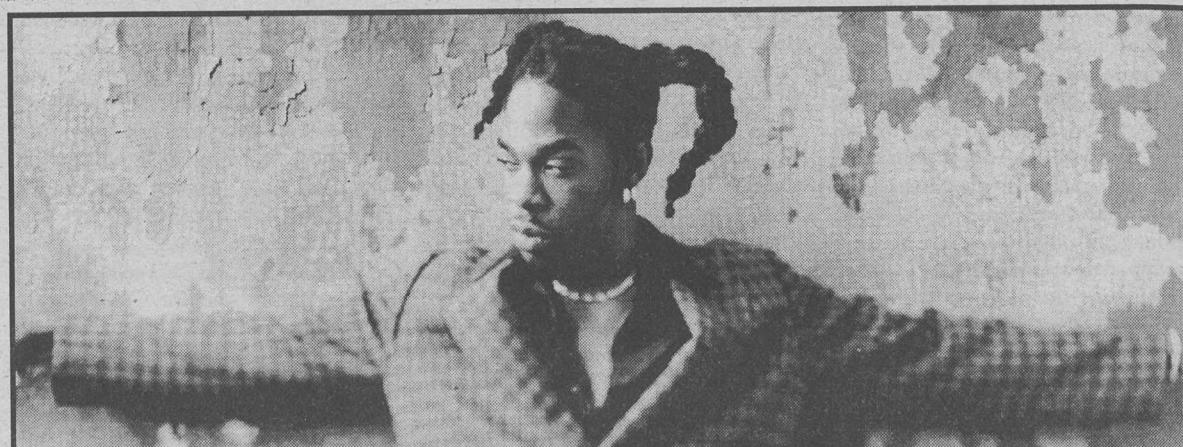
But by far, the strongest representatives are his Flipmode Squad brothers, and it is quickly clear that Busta Rhymes is not in this alone.

Each member of The Squad is integral to the success of the others.

Busta Rhymes has performed

**by Lesly C. Hallman**

Hatchet Staff Writer



Busta Rhymes returns to the music scene with hard core lyrics to entertain fans on his latest album, *When Disaster Strikes*.

two shows in D.C. in recent weeks, and they further solidified his rise to the top. It is not possible to be in the house and not be infected with his energy. He loves to rap, perform, act like a fool on stage and entertain.

When he played the Capitol Ballroom with Wyclef and the Refugee All-Stars, Busta Rhymes

did "Put Your Hand Where my Eyes Can See" twice in his set. When Wyclef took a water break, he performed it again. No one got the feeling he was taking over – it was what the crowd wanted.

Clearly, Busta Rhymes is a true hip hop fan in his own right, and that comes off on stage and on disc. A straight-up talented performer

would be the best description for Busta. *When Disaster Strikes* is free of political messages and love songs.

It is about time someone took rap back to what it should be – entertainment for the fans. If others follow his lead, great, but if not, at least Busta can say he has fulfilled his personal destiny.

## Twisted tales by Burton create a humorously sad poetry book

**T**he Melancholy Death of Oyster Boy & Other Stories (Weisbach/Morrow) is a depressing, but sweet, book of poetry written and illustrated by Tim Burton.

Burton, a former Disney animator, is the creative genius behind the films *Batman*, *Beetlejuice* and *Edward Scissorhands*. *Melancholy* is Burton's second book; his previous book, *The Nightmare Before Christmas*, became a feature film.

The book is a collection of poems about malformed and misunderstood children leading

somewhat miserable lives. Take, for example, the sad love affair of Stick Boy and Match Girl: "Stick Boy liked Match Girl, he liked her a lot./He liked her cute figure, he thought she was hot./But could a flame ever burn for a match and a stick?/It did quite literally; he burned up pretty quick."

The title story is about a husband and wife who, after a seafood dinner, conceive a child born with an oyster for a head. When sexual problems for the couple appear, the doctor recommends an aphrodisiac, and

poor Oyster Boy is no more. Gross? Yes. But sad, too.

In fact, most of the children meet a horrifying end, like Mummy Boy who is mistaken for a piñata and Junk Girl who throws herself down the garbage disposal in despair.

Although they are absurdly tragic, the poems leave the reader feeling somewhat cheered because real life could never be that bad. On top of that, one has to marvel at the sheer invention behind some of these kids – like Stain Boy, the

super hero who does not rescue anything from anyone, he just leaves stains.

The book address issues like pollution, angst-filled love and doomed efforts to conceive. Some of it is funny, and some of it is gross.

Burton's drawings, while at times gruesome, give the book its sweetness. Many are in color, and while they are not elaborate, they are cute. They rescue the poems from appearing too gratingly miserable.

Burton creates the children so that the reader adores them for their deformities. The 23 poems are a quick and entertaining read.

## Call for Extended Science Abstracts *ex nihilo:*

The George Washington University Undergraduate Research Journal

The Editorial Board of the University Honors Program is now accepting extended science research abstracts for consideration for publication. These abstracts should summarize the results or projected results of research conducted by current or former undergraduates of The George Washington University.

Extended Science Research Abstracts should adhere to the following guidelines:

- should be no longer than four (4) typed, double-spaced pages
- should be submitted in hard copy and on disk (IBM format)
- should include author's name, address, telephone number, school, major and professor with which the research is being conducted.
- all submissions become the property of the UHP and will not be returned.

Send all submissions by December 5, 1997 to:

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University Honors Program  
2138 G Street, NW  
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journal@gwi2.circ.gwu.edu

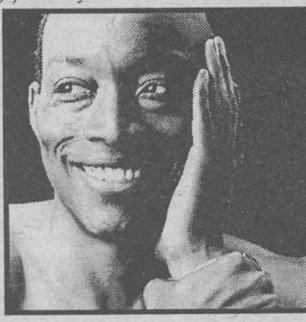
## Formulaic performance lacks crowd interaction

**B**ill T. Jones follows just the right formula in his latest work, complete with technical tricks and dramatic details. But the performance review highlights of his show occur when the rules are broken.

"We Set Out Early ... Visibility Was Poor" is Bill T. Jones/Arnie Zane Dance Company's first full-length work since the celebrated "Still/Here" in 1994. While "Still/Here" is based on his personal experience of dealing with a terminal disease and evoked a range of emotions, "We Set Out Early" distances the audience with its use of abstract movements and objects.

"We Set Out Early" feeds the audience images, rather than engaging it in a thought-provoking journey. The three sections of the performance are marked by changes in music, lighting and set construction. They consist of dancers interacting in various spatial relationships.

The work is anti-climactic. No change or sense of transformation takes place after the interactions occur.



Bill T. Jones

Although the performance lacks audience interaction, it had its high points.

The 10 members of the company, who vary in every aspect, coalesce into a unified body of differences. The range in personalities is heightened by costume choices and adds color and playfulness to the piece.

In one section, Germaul Yusef Barnes partners with Miguel Anaya, performing a fast and flamboyant *pas de deux* center stage. Later, Josie Coyoc throws herself into the arms of Barnes and repeatedly is pulled away, as if someone is pressing the rewind button.

It is moments like these that shake up the formula of the choreography and catch the audience by surprise.

In "Voiceland," the audience again is pleasantly surprised when the dancers begin to speak quickly and urgently, but without sound.

Though slick and proficiently technical, the choreography is uninspiring in its obvious attempt to be open to interpretations.

# Move over, Recess Purely Coincidental is the new kid on the comedy scene

**by Michelle Higgins**  
*Hatchet Reporter*

The newest GW comedy group may call itself Purely Coincidental, but it's far from PC.

Recess is no longer the only comedy group on campus. But the appearance of PC was hardly coincidental; founding the group took a lot of planning and hard work.

Senior Andrew Kozma and

sophomore Ryan Frank, who started the group with the help of the Creative and Performing Arts Community, said the campus needed another comedy group for several reasons.

Recess auditions draw an overwhelming number of people, many of whom must be turned away, Frank explained. Many of them are talented, but are left with no outlet to practice comedy, he said. Purely

Coincidental offers students another venue, another opportunity to perform.

Like Recess, the group performs biweekly, but putting on shows is not its sole purpose.

"We are trying to make our focus improv rather than skits like Recess," said sophomore Tony Delgado. Self-improvement and learning from one another also is important, explained sophomore Rory Haiber. In that sense the group is something of a training ground, suggested one of the 14 members during a boisterous rehearsal in the Mitchell Hall Theater.

"Yeah," Kozma quipped, "like a bra."

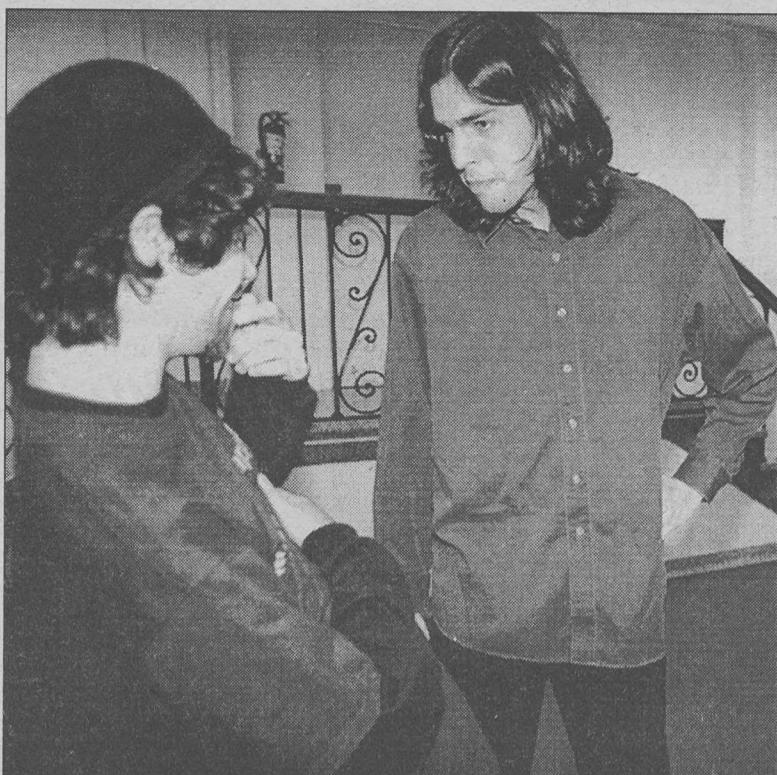
"Improv is the most basic form of performance," Delgado explained. "If we can get good enough at it, we will be prepared to do any form of performance that exists."

During rehearsals, the group struggles for improvement by criticizing one another and practicing diligently. The members take turns leading improvisations, while the other members watch and offer feedback.

Offending people can be really funny, Delgado explained, but too many comedians depend on sex and profanities to carry their acts.

"We want to expand rather than have to rely on that to be funny," Delgado said.

Despite the group's focus on improvisation, it is bound to use what is at its disposal. For the time being, this means the group is limited to an eleven-to-three ratio of men to women, which the men claim is accidental. The imbalance



photos by Jay Crystal/asst. photo editor

**Sophomores Matthew Roth (left) and Tony Delgado (right) improvise during a skit in the Mitchell Hall Theater.**

does not hinder them too much, they say, and they have their fingers crossed for new members.

"Anybody can do this," Kozma insisted.

"We are definitely not a closed group," added Frank.

Others may join if they can hack the rehearsals. The group meets nightly from 10 p.m. to midnight or later.

"The fact of the matter is there are too many funny people on campus for just one improv group," said Frank.

While some of the impetus for PC's development arose out of the mass rejections from Recess auditions, group members say they do not feel any hostility toward their competition.

"There is definitely room enough for more than one comedy group on campus," Haiber said.

Purely Coincidental will be performing before Thanksgiving in the Mitchell Hall Theater.

"We're like the *Rocky Horror Picture Show* meets *Full House*," sophomore Matthew Roth said.



**Sophomore Ryan Frank (left) and senior Andrew Kozma (right) founded Purely Coincidental this fall.**

The GW Hatchet would like to wish Lee Rumbarger a happy 22nd birthday!

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## A Discussion about Diversity on Campus

*What Have Been Your Experiences with Diversity at GW?*

*How Can We Work to Promote Diversity at GW?*

at

# Issues Awareness Night

Tonight!

Monday, November 10

MC Ballroom

8:30pm



**College Democrats**

The Diversity Programs Clearinghouse

**BPU**  
THE BLACK PEOPLES' UNION

**MCCGB**  
Marvin Center Governing Board

**The Student Association**  
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Multicultural Student Services Center • Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Nu Beta Chapter  
Latinos For Progress (LFP) • Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. Mu Delta Chapter  
Colonial Consulting Group • Muslim Student Association • Arab Student Association

LGBA

# Students face debt challenge

Credit cards cause problems for students and GW

by Michelle Higgins  
Hatchet Staff Writer

As students find themselves saddled with telephone bills, textbook expenses and miscellaneous expenditures, credit card debt looms large as a challenge of student life.

With credit card solicitors outside the Marvin Center offering free T-shirts, prepaid calling cards and discounts on air travel, credit cards are a ubiquitous temptation.

The 1997 Colonial Cabinet warned freshmen at last summer's Colonial Inauguration about the credit card solicitors who distribute literature in front of the Marvin Center and other spots on campus. Some Cabinet members say they believe student credit debt is a growing concern.

"I know that it is an issue on campus and know a lot of people who have gotten into trouble because of it," said Julie Hay, a 1997 Cabinet member.

Hay said this was the first year the Cabinet used credit card debt as the focus of one of its skits. The skits performed for freshmen and their parents portrayed the accessibility of credit card applications on campus and the ease of spending on a credit card.

Students in the skits were offered free merchandise if they signed up for a card or found credit card applications in their new textbooks. The students were then confronted by their parents, who had received outrageous bills from their children's credit card companies.

"I don't think people realize that credit is something that follows you for the rest of your life," said junior Chris Hahn.

Lauren Sharp, a freshman credit card holder, said she got a card for emergencies and to begin establishing a good credit line.



To read a previous article about the GW credit card, visit The Hatchet online at [www.gwhatchet.com](http://www.gwhatchet.com) and look for a link at the bottom of this story.

"I want to have one in case I want to order something through the mail or need proof of ID," said Andrea Stiteler, a freshman who is currently applying for a credit card.

### Easy access

University administrators question the easy availability of credit cards on campus.

"We have to recognize that the easy access to credit cards on campus causes the problem," said Mike Gargano, executive director of the Student Activities Center. "Personally, I think we have too many credit cards making themselves available to the students."

Joe Montano, a Marvin Center scheduling clerk, said credit card companies are treated the same as other off-campus groups when they request permission to solicit cards on campus.

He explained that credit card solicitors must be sponsored by a student group or the University administration in order to solicit inside the Marvin Center.

"Often student organizations have an agreement with the credit card company so that it acts as a fund-raiser for the student organization," Montano said. "If this is the case, at times they will be granted a fee waiver (for the per day charge of \$175)."

### Paying tuition with credit

But despite concerns that students – both at GW and elsewhere – are too reliant on credit cards, GW students are unable to use a credit card to

charge what is undoubtedly their largest expense: tuition.

In the fall semester of 1993, GW began allowing students to pay up to \$5,000 in tuition payments with a credit card each semester.

According to administrators in the Office of the Vice President and Treasurer, the University incurred significant bank charges and transaction fees as a result of increased use of credit cards to pay tuition.

Bank fees assessed on GW drained money from academic programs, said Don Boselovic, assistant vice president for budget. Thus, a convenience for students and their families – paying tuition with credit cards – was becoming a University expense.

So in the fall of 1995, GW stopped allowing students to pay tuition by credit card.

Also contributing to the University's decision to no longer accept credit card payments, credit card companies did not agree with the \$5,000 cap.

"They said they couldn't do business on that basis," Boselovic said. "We would have had to allowed students to pay their entire tuition with credit cards. It would have been costly for the University because of the high charge by the banks."

But other universities and student loan programs allow students to pay with credit cards.

According to a survey conducted in July by Sallie Mae, a corporation that processes student loans, more than 20 percent of college students use credit cards to pay for part of the costs of their educations.

"I would love to see it come back," said Student Association President Kuyomars "Q" Golparvar of the credit card method of tuition payment. "I would love to see the students be able to pay for their tuition using whatever means was best for them."

## Distance learning finds niche on GWTW

by David Rand  
Hatchet Reporter

A new distance learning studio at GW's television station will give students the opportunity to monitor and participate in classes without ever setting foot on campus.

A current trend in higher education, distance learning gives students with unusual circumstances the chance to fulfill course requirements and even complete degrees.

Studies indicate that dedicated students educated through distance learning are able to retain more of the information they learn than students taught in traditional classroom environments, GWTW's special services manager Arlene Polinsky said.

"We're letting what we're teaching dictate the delivery system," Polinsky said. "You don't need a talking head teaching you statistics."

Distance learning's non-traditional approach vastly increases the possible pool of students, Polinsky said.

"There is a very non-standard group that can benefit from these technologies," Polinsky said, citing students in remote areas and students with learning disabilities as examples.

Polinsky said distance learning

requires students who are highly motivated because "you don't have professors looking over your shoulder twice a week."

The new studio's features include microphones on every desk, full audiovisual support for presentations and three remote cameras. The studio allows a class in session to be monitored and joined live by students around the world, Polinsky said.

Distance learning combines a variety of technologies – students are able to interact with their professor and receive assignments by mail, telephone, fax or over the Internet.

Occasionally, classes are filmed live and allow the instructor and students the opportunity to see, hear, and converse with one another.

Equipped with three fully-furnished broadcast studios and located in the Academic Center, GWTW is run entirely by professionals and contracts the use of its studio and staff both commercially and within the University.

GWTW is producing several distance learning programs.

One program is a master's degree program in educational technology leadership offered by the Graduate School of Education and Human Development.

Several thousand students from across the country have received the degree from GW's GSEHD since 1983 without ever taking a class in Foggy Bottom, Polinsky said.

However, according to Bill Lynch, director of the Education Technology Leadership program, distance learning through GW is more than just a correspondence course.

"The program is striving to provide a high-quality educational experience to people who choose GW as their school of first choice," Lynch said.

Program leaders hope to continue pioneering methods and techniques for successful delivery of distance learning, Lynch said.

This spring, the degree in educational technology leadership will integrate on-line testing into its program for the first time.

Another distance learning program produced at GWTW allowed members of the military stationed on Navy vessels to complete bachelor's degree programs while at sea.

Lynch notes that distance learning programs do not replace standard teaching methods.

"There is room for all, both classroom and distance learning at GW," he said.



# pre-med at nyu

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- Human Physiology
- Human Reproduction and Development
- Biochemistry I and II
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- General Physics I and II
- Calculus I and II

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## GW President offers 48 scholarships

from p. 1

financial reasons," Gordon said.

"Some thought they could not go to a college as prestigious as GW. Right now, there is no obstacle as long as they continue to do their work. We can tell them they have this scholarship to work for if they get out of line," Gordon said.

"I told them it would cost about \$150,000 ... I said that if you go on to graduate from high school and are

admitted to George Washington on your merits, we will do what it takes to get you the resources," Trachtenberg said in The Post.

"I am trying to inspire kids to press on with their studying," he said.

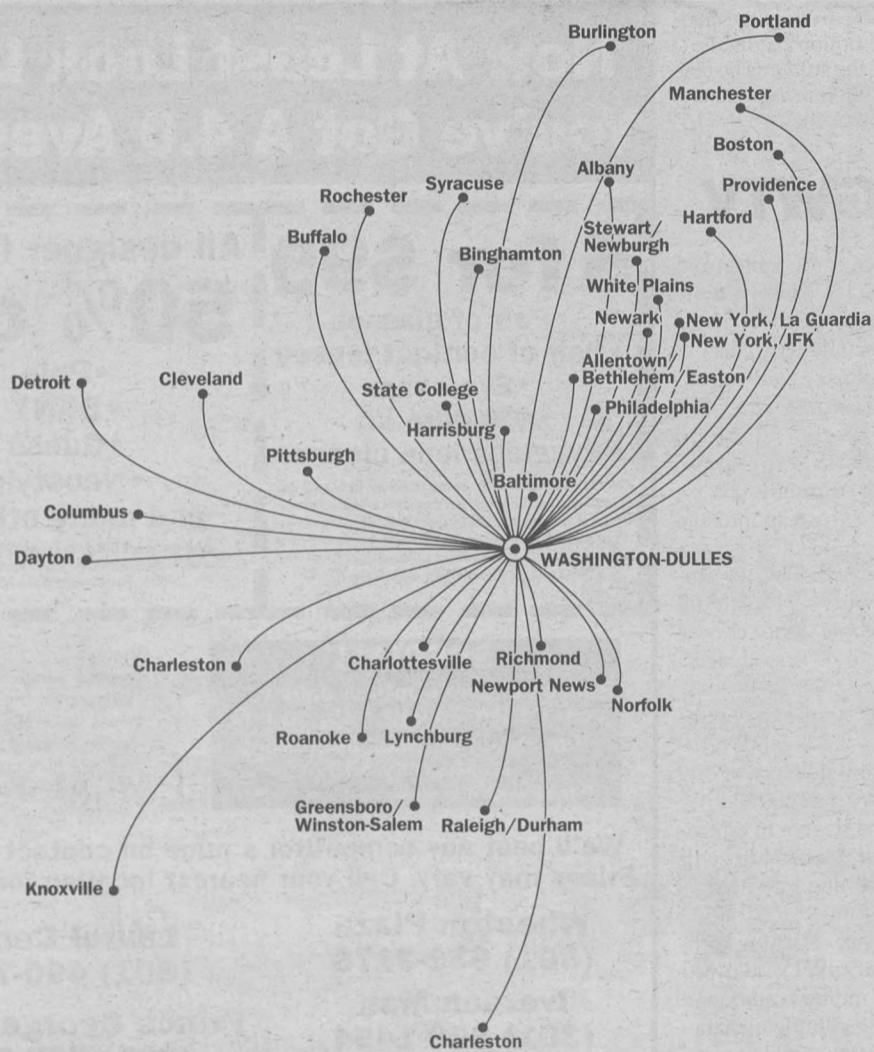
The University offers four-year scholarships to 10 outstanding District public school students annually through the 21st Century Scholars program.

Trachtenberg said he will not visit other schools in the District to make this offer because "I can't afford it."

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## SA introduces tuition board

from p. 1

to the pending tuition increase. Haber acknowledged that SAYIT and TAC are similar, but he said TAC has SA and Senate support.

Undergraduate Sen. Jesse Strauss (CSAS), the primary sponsor of the bill, said the administration spends a certain amount of tuition revenue each year beyond the Higher Education Price Index, and he said students want an input in where those funds go.

"The faculty gives their recommendations to the administration, and the administration does it, but the students do not have a list of spending priorities, and that's what TAC does," Strauss said. "It creates what's called 'student budgetary priorities,' which state where students want to see money spent."

If the bill to amend the Senate's bylaws is passed Tuesday, the next SA president will be authorized to appoint the director of TAC. The director, in turn, would appoint the rest of the commission.

Undergraduate Sen. Patrick Macmanus (at large) said he originally opposed the amendment to create TAC because in its original form the bill only allowed for legislative involvement on the commission.

The amendment in its present form, lauded by Macmanus as a compromise, allows for executive appointments to the commission.

According to the language of the amendment, 12 students will be on the commission, including four senators and two students who are "preferably not affiliated with the SA."

"The original intentions were to make it a commission with only legislative participation," Macmanus said. "I believe the senators should be on it, but I don't think they should be the only people on it."

He said the SA's executive branch should play a large role in the commission.

"The way that I perceive the executive is an individual who has to take under his belt everything that affects students. Tuition is the predominant thing that effects students. This year it is our responsibility, and I hope that President (Kuyomars "Q") Golparvar will take it on himself to become extremely involved in the entire decision-making process," he said.

"It goes beyond tuition, it goes to every issue," Macmanus said, emphasizing the importance of the SA President's involvement in issues that affect students.

"The president has to keep his hands in the pies, and I don't believe that is happening. And I think that with something as important as tuition increase it's got to happen," Macmanus said. "I think that the executive and the legislature working together will be more effective than either of them working alone."

Golparvar said a group of SA representatives, SAYIT members and other students currently are addressing the tuition issue. They are compiling information on tuition, including data from student surveys that are circulating, that will be presented to the administration later this semester.

"I get regular reports of what they're doing, and I help where I can, but that is why they formed the commission," Golparvar said.

The success of the Dining Services Commission, which includes legislative and executive involvement, was cited by senators as an impetus behind the structure of TAC. Haber said he does not have utopian hopes for the commission, but said he believes it will be able to work toward change.

"We realize that there is going to be (a tuition increase), and we realize that even some years it is going to be high. But what we don't realize and don't expect is that we should be left out in the dark in the process," Haber concluded.

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# Sports



The Colonial women are a long shot to make the NCAA Tournament after falling to UMass 1-0 in Sunday's A-10 Tournament final.

## UMass tops GW for fifth straight year in A-10

by Dustin Gouker  
Asst. Sports Editor

**women's soccer** Lightning isn't supposed to strike the same place twice, let alone five times.

**T hat's** what happened this weekend, though, as the GW women's soccer team lost to Massachusetts in the Atlantic 10 Tournament for the fifth straight year.

This year, GW (13-6-2) lost to first-seeded UMass 1-0 in the final of the tournament, the same score the Minutewomen beat the Colonial women by in last season's A-10 semifinals.

It is likely that the loss ended GW's season, with more automatic bids to the NCAA Tournament being given to conference champions. The new system allows little room for potential at-large bids like GW to make their way into the tournament.

Also this weekend, three GW players were honored by the A-10 Conference. Senior forward Chemar Smith, who became the school's all-time leading point and goal scorer this season, was named first team All-Conference. Senior midfielder Carri Sellers and freshman midfielder Lauren Papalia made second team All-Conference.

### UMass 1, GW 0

UMass' Kara Green blasted a shot into the corner of GW's net with less than 10 minutes left in regulation to

beat the Colonial women and win the A-10 Championship held at Xavier.

With the win, UMass (17-4) earned a spot in the 1997 NCAA Tournament field.

GW stuck with the Minutewomen all game, though, as the team was only outshot 12-10. GW goalie Traci Jensen made six saves in the game, while Jane Andersen had four of the Colonial women's shots.

### GW 2, Xavier 1

Jane Andersen scored four minutes into overtime to lift GW to a 2-1 victory over Xavier in the semifinals of the A-10 Tournament.

Carri Sellers directed a free kick to Andersen at the 93:59 mark, which the junior forward put in the goal to put the Colonial women in the finals of the tournament.

GW jumped in front early when Andersen sent a blast past Xavier goalie Ann Hubbard, who made saves on nine of the Colonial women's shots, at the 5:44 mark.

Xavier came back to tie the game with less than eight minutes left to go in regulation time. Holly Grow headed in a pass from Amanda Gruber to tie the score and force overtime.

The Colonial women had the better opportunities offensively, outshooting the Musketeers 19-14, although GW's top two scorers coming into the game, Chemar Smith and Lauren Papalia, each had four shots but no points.

## Upcoming Games

MBB-men's basketball  
WBB-women's basketball

\*-exhibition

Monday

MBB vs. Around the World-7:30 p.m.\*

Tuesday

no games scheduled

Wednesday

WBB vs. Rossianka-7:00 p.m.\* no games scheduled

Thursday

## GW places 5th at Easterns

The GW men's water polo team fell just short of making its first

**N C A A men's water polo** Tournament this weekend, as the eighth-seeded Colonials finished in fifth place at the Collegiate Water Polo Association Eastern Championships in Annapolis, Md.

GW, competing in the Eastern Championships for the first time, needed three straight wins in the tournament to reach the NCAA Championships.

However, the Colonials opened the tournament Saturday with a 6-4

loss to the tournament winner, Queens College.

"Both teams were flat," GW Coach Van Hoffman said of the Queens loss. "You have to win your first game and keep on winning, and that's what Queens did. You never like to lose, but at least we lost to the eventual tournament winner."

GW used sudden-death overtime to beat Bucknell University 8-7 Saturday night. The Colonials finished the tournament Sunday with another overtime win, this time against tournament host Navy. The 9-8 victory was GW's second win over Navy this sea-

son. The Colonials had never beaten the Midshipmen before this season.

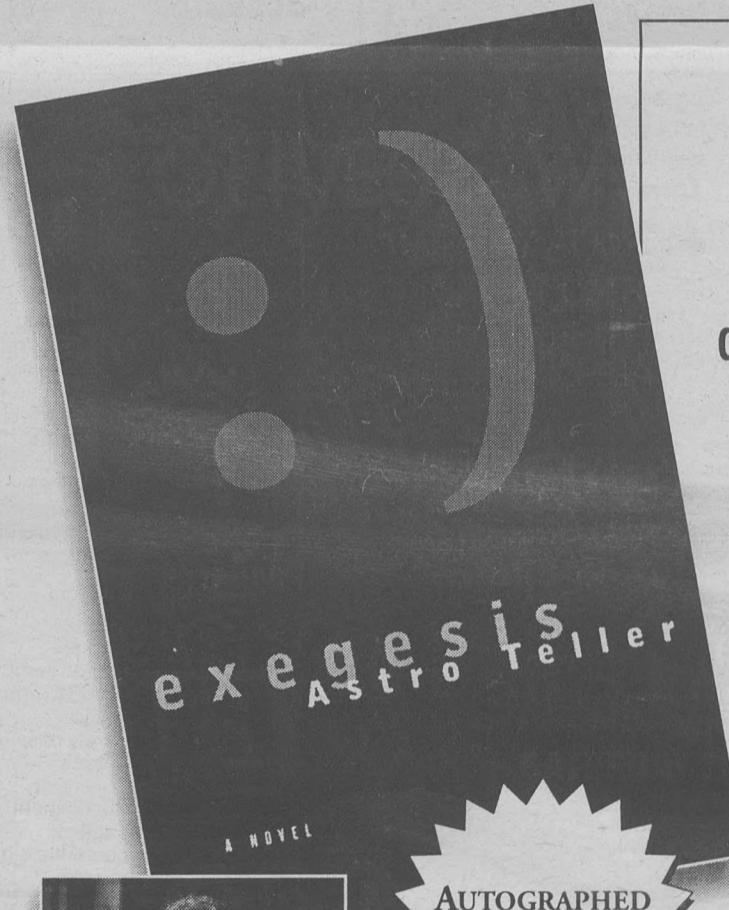
GW's two wins were good enough to place it fifth in the championships. However, fifth place was not high enough to qualify for the NCAA Tournament.

"It was the first time we were in the Eastern Championships and we did well, but I think we could have done better," Hoffman said.

The Colonials are scheduled to play one more tournament this season, but Hoffman said it is not meaningful. GW is now 20-9 on the season.

-Dave Mann

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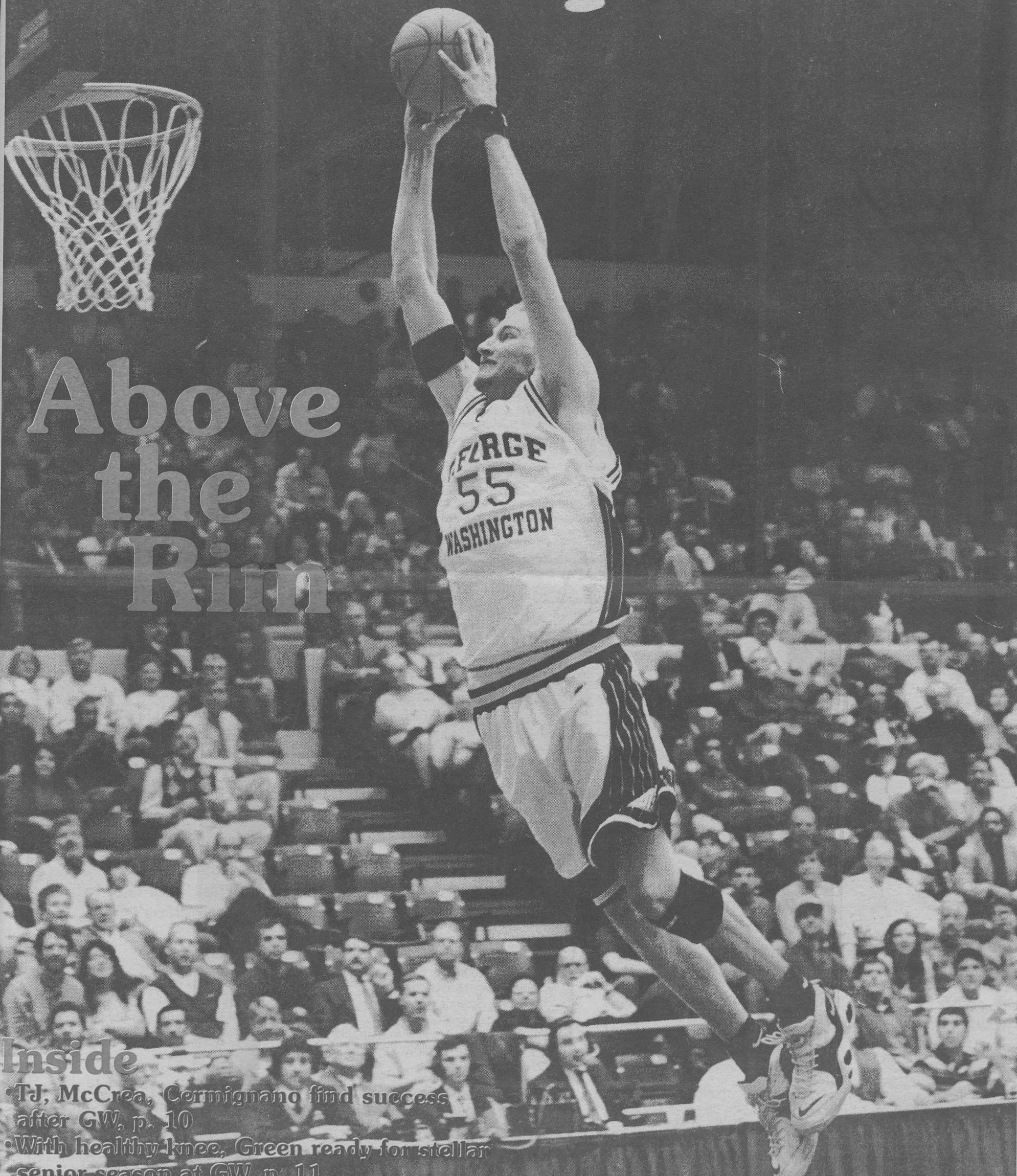
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# 1997-'98 Basketball Preview

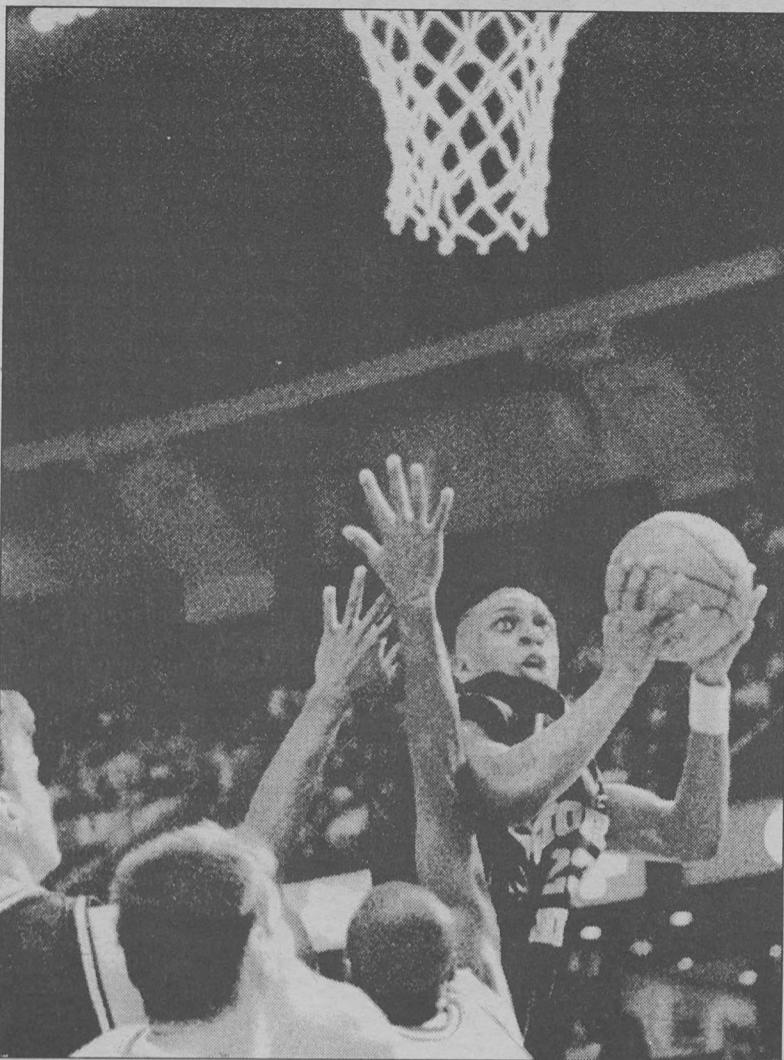


## Inside

- TJ, McCrea, Cermignano find success after GW, p. 10
- With healthy knee, Green ready for stellar senior season at GW, p. 11
- Bashful Ngombla ready for season, p. 8

Forward Yegor Mescheriakov  
photo by Tyson Trish

# Improved shooting, rebounding, experience to help GW



Claire Duggan/senior photo editor  
J.J. Brade elevates against St. Joe's in last year's A-10 Tournament.  
The junior will be a part of GW's deep bench in 1997-'98.

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## Incoming freshmen make Colonials deeper and more talented

by Dave Mann  
Sports Editor

Deficiencies in rebounding, outside shooting and experience added up to last year's disappointing 15-14 season for the GW men's basketball team.

Heading into the 1997-'98 season, the Colonials appear to have solved these three problems.

The addition of freshman power forwards Pat Ngongba and Antxon Iturbe - both 6-8 - should improve the team's rebounding. With the power forward position now occupied, junior Yegor Mescheriakov will be free to move outside and find more scoring opportunities on the perimeter. Moving Mescheriakov back to small forward should improve the team's outside shooting.

However, head coach Mike Jarvis sees improved inside play as the key to success.

"What I'm excited about is the inside game, because no matter what the perimeter game does, you win the game on the inside," Jarvis said. "Even when you're not getting things on the outside, if you can get something inside every night, then you're going to win. If we could have gotten a few more rebounds a year ago, most people would not have recognized the fact that we didn't shoot the ball real well."

Ngongba, a native of the Central African Republic, was a top recruit a year ago, but was forced to sit out the season because of academic ineligibility. Iturbe, meanwhile, comes to GW from the highly regarded St. John's at Prospect Hall.

"Both are very smart and very capable offensive and defensive players," Jarvis said of Iturbe and Ngongba. "Neither one of them do I

consider freshmen. Patrick was here a year ago and had the opportunity to practice, and did a great job for someone who wasn't going to play. And Iturbe comes from one of the best high school programs in the country."

The Colonials have only lost reserves from last year's team. Ferdinand Williams graduated, while Kinte Smith transferred to the University of Richmond and Jackson Payne transferred to Christian Brothers University in Memphis, Tenn.

GW returns last season's starting lineup, making the Colonials a much more experienced team this year.

Last season, GW was a schizophrenic team, following solid victories with sloppy losses. The team never established a winning personality. GW played the entire middle of the season without winning back-to-back games. The Colonials' longest winning streak last season was a mere three games.

GW's chances of making the NCAA Tournament were killed by close losses to Xavier, Massachusetts and St. Joseph's. Winning close games and sustaining a consistent performance will be keys to a successful season. These are skills that come with experience, and the Colonials are certainly more experienced this season.

GW returns all its key players, including the dynamic duo of 7-1 center Alexander Koul and 5-4 point guard Shawnta Rogers.

Koul, when playing well, is one of the top centers in the nation. However, last season Koul was inconsistent. The senior often

was slowed by foul trouble, fouling out of nine games last season and collecting four fouls in 11 others. Staying out of foul trouble will be key if Koul is to make the improvements GW fans have been expecting.

Rogers is one of the quickest players in the nation. He distributes the ball and sparks the fast break, two things Jarvis wants to see more of this season, even if it causes a few more turnovers.

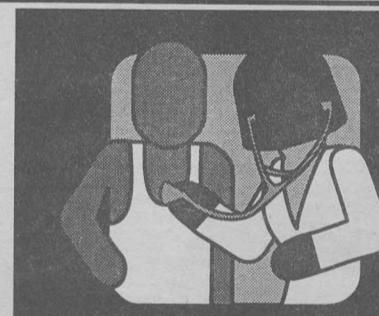
"We're going to have a few more turnovers than we would like, for two reasons," he said. "One is we're going to run. Two is that everybody is expected to handle the ball, everybody's going to be involved in the offense."

Mescheriakov enters his junior season as an emerging scoring threat for the Colonials. Mescheriakov showed that he can take over games offensively toward the end of last season. His scoring average jumped to 16.6 points per game last season after he averaged 9.7 his freshman year.

The Colonials also will have improved depth. In addition to swingman J.J. Brade, forwards Darin

Green and Seco Camara, and guard Rasheed Hazzard, GW also returns a good one-on-one defender in junior guard Andrei Krivonos.

GW has stars in Koul, Rogers and Mescheriakov. GW has depth and more experience, and the addition of Iturbe and Ngongba should improve the rebounding. With some improved shooting, GW has the pieces in place to make a run at the conference championship and in the NCAA Tournament.



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# Young Colonial women try to build on last year's success

**After losing three seniors, GW plans to return to the NCAAs**

• by Dustin Gouker  
Asst. Sports Editor

After the GW women's basketball team lost three of the greatest players in its history, the team figured it would have to work to earn the respect of the entire nation again.

Or maybe not. Ranked as high as 18th in the polls of several preseason publications, and with a good chance to be ranked when the Associated Press poll comes out next week, the Colonial women have been acknowledged coming into this season as a national powerhouse.

But head coach Joe McKeown isn't one to base his team's success on how it fares in national polls.

"Like every year, our goal is to just play our best basketball and peak at the right time of the year," McKeown said. "You want to have a chance at the end of the year to play your best basketball, and if that happens, the winning takes care of itself. Obviously every year we want to win a championship, too, and those goals pretty much don't change."

This year's squad, which is following a team that went 28-6, 16-0 in the Atlantic 10, and reached the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament, has some big shoes to fill. With seniors Tajama Abraham, Lisa Cermignano and Colleen McCrea lost to graduation, some serious gaps must be filled quickly.

"Those three were tremendous for us," McKeown said. You don't really replace the people who have been four-year starters. The impact they had on and off the court was tremendous."

While the players can't really be

replaced, the team still must find substitutions for Abraham's scoring (19.9 ppg), Cermignano's outside shooting (43.7 percent three-point field goals), McCrea's court savvy (5.8 apg) and the leadership all three provided.

"I hope somebody steps up to be a leader," McKeown said. "When you have seniors, you sort of defer to them, and we don't have any. People like Noelia Gomez, who has a lot of talent, could go out there and lead by example."

Gomez, a 6-3 junior forward, certainly will be key to the Colonial women's success this year. A-10 Rookie of the Year a year ago, Gomez was an integral part of last year's squad, scoring 17.5 points per game and pulling down seven rebounds a game. This year the team will look to her to be the main source of scoring in most games.

Joining Gomez in the post this season will be 6-4 junior Khadija Deas, a serious defensive presence inside, and 6-2 Mandisa Turner, both role players last year. Despite being touted as one of the biggest teams in GW history, McKeown said his team "isn't that big."

"We're not big in the sense of power," McKeown said. "This isn't the kind of team that will pound the ball inside. This is more of a running team."

Pushing GW's up-tempo style of play this season will be Chasity Myers and Marlo Egleston, two sophomores who impressed spectators as freshmen a year ago. Myers, an A-10 All-Rookie Team selection in 1997, averaged 10.3 points and 2.8 assists a game as a starter last season, and

most likely will be the starter at shooting guard all season.

Egleston, who split time with McCrea at point guard last season, is the heir apparent to Cermignano as GW's best three-point shooter and one of the best long-range shooters in the nation, according to McKeown. She hit 39 of 93 three-point attempts a year ago, while averaging 6.1 points and 3.2 assists a game off the bench.

Adding to GW's depth at guard will be sophomore Elisa Lopez of Spain, who started at the point in GW's exhibition victory over Denamo-Moscow.

"Between her, Marlo and Chasity, we have a lot of things that we had with Colleen, Marlo and Chasity," McKeown said. "I am really excited about our guard play."

Two other players from overseas also figure to have a big impact on this year's team. Petra Dubovcova and Katarina Baskova, both from Slovakia, will probably see a great deal of playing time at a variety of positions, according to McKeown.

"Petra is very talented, and she can play three or four positions," McKeown said. "When you are capable of doing that, you know you have to find time for her. For somebody to beat her out (for a starting position), they would have to do a great job."

With all of the returnees from last year, and a number of new players expected to contribute, GW might have one of the deepest benches in the country.

"We are about as deep as we've ever been," McKeown said. "We have a pretty good nucleus of kids that are all the same talent level. But any time you have depth, you have to use it right. You have to find chemistry and consistency."



Tyson Trish/editor in chief

**Sophomore Chasity Myers will be a key offensive threat for the young Colonial women in 1997-'98.**

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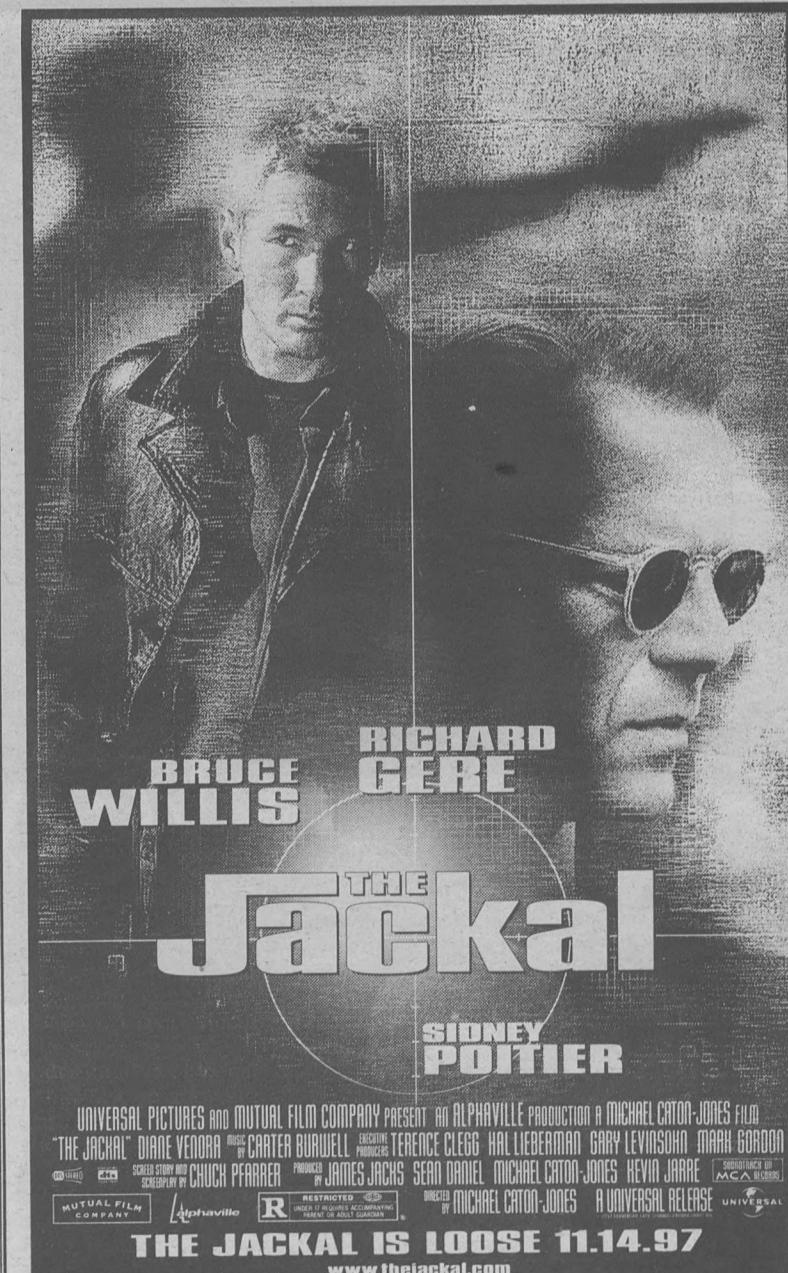
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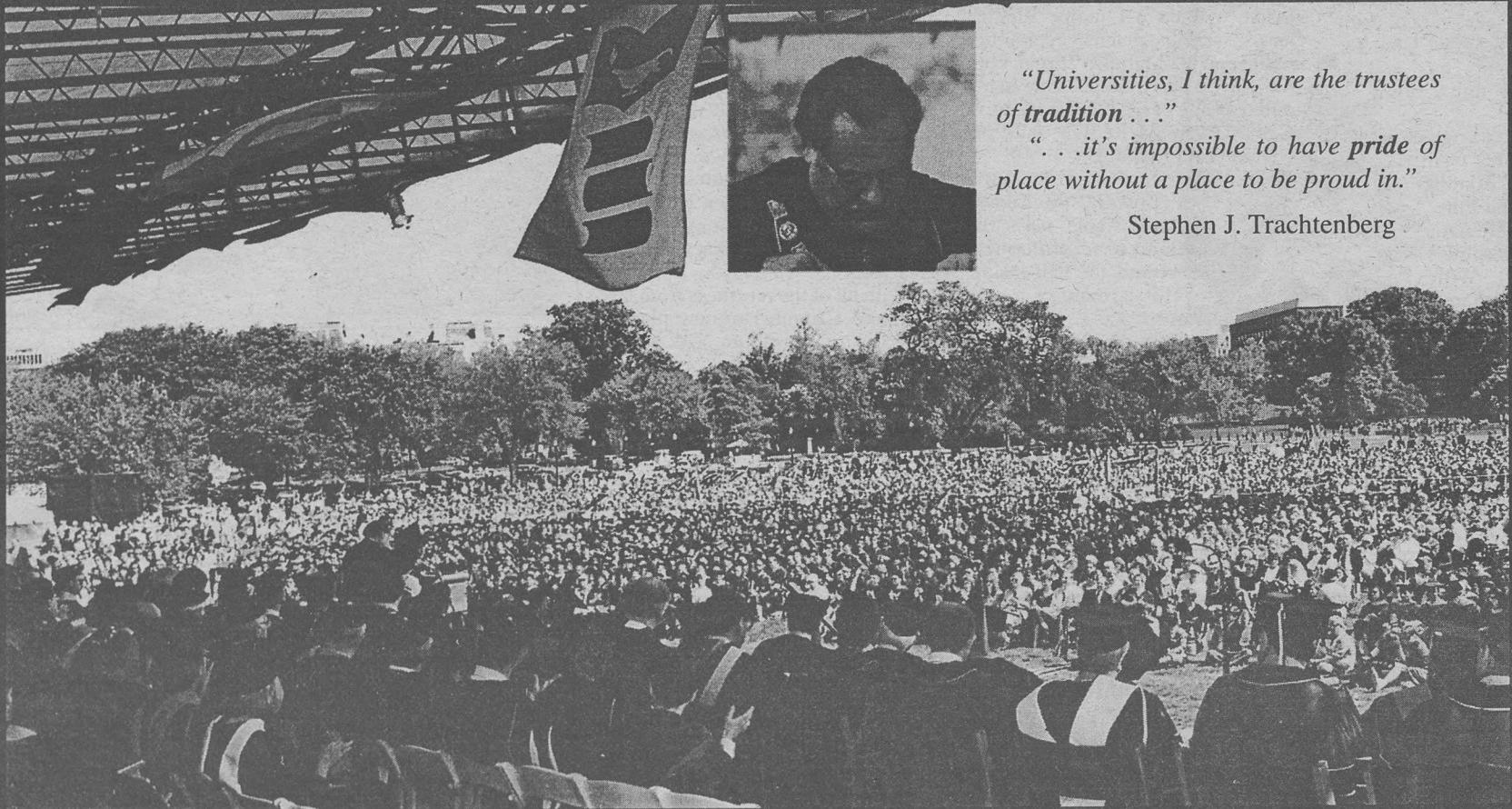
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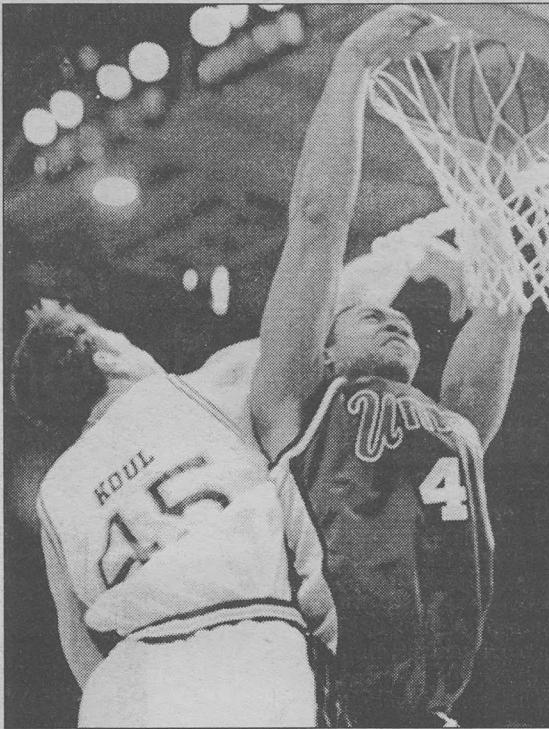
TAKEN FROM GW ADMISSIONS PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

# GW must handle Xavier, URI in improved A-10

by Matt Osborne

Hatchet Sports Reporter

This season, the GW men's basketball team is hoping to get back to the NCAA Tournament for the fourth time in six years. To do that, it must fight its way through one of the toughest conferences in college bas-



Claire Duggan/senior photo editor

UMass and sophomore Lari Ketner will again pose a challenge to Alexander Koul and the Colonials in the A-10.

ketball – the Atlantic 10.

Here's how the conference breaks down (in The GW Hatchet's predicted order of finish):

## West Division

### 1.) Xavier

Xavier was last year's A-10 West champion, and the team returns virtually all its key players from last season. The Musketeers are led by high-scoring junior guards Gary Lumpkin (14.7 ppg) and Lenny Brown (15.6 ppg), and the team boast seniors T.J. Johnson and Torraye Braggs in the middle. Xavier will be a threat to get a very high seed in the NCAA Tournament this season.

### 2.) George Washington

The Colonials were champions of the A-10 West Division in 1995-'96. Their most talented rival for that title this year will be the Xavier Musketeers.

### 3.) Dayton

Another team from the A-10 West that could give GW some trouble is Dayton. Although the Colonials have knocked off the Flyers four games in a row during the last two seasons, the team has a strong nucleus returning. This includes 6-7 senior forward Ryan Perriman, who led the team in scoring and rebounding last season. With a solid veteran backcourt to go with Perriman, the Flyers should be an improved team.

### 4.) Duquesne

GW will face Duquesne twice this season. The Dukes tied for last in the A-10 West last year, but are attempting to make a comeback behind impressive guard play. Duquesne will be led by senior Mike James (13.6 ppg).

### 5.) La Salle

The La Salle Explorers also are paced by a stellar backcourt. La Salle boasts seniors Mike Gizi and Shawn Smith, along with sophomore phenom Donnie Carr, who led the league in scoring last year with 23.9 ppg. Head coach Speedy Morris will look to these three to lead the Explorers back to prominence.

### 6.) Virginia Tech

One team that may suffer a little this year is Virginia Tech. The Hokies no longer have star Ace Custis, but they have a versatile crop of freshmen and a new coach in Bobby Hussey. They won't be vulnerable for too long, thanks to a good recruiting class last year, including prize recruit Rolan Roberts from Potomac High School. Roberts was The Washington Post's 1995-'96 Player of the Year.

## East Division

### 1.) Massachusetts

As has been the case for most of the 1990s, the Massachusetts Minutemen will lead the pack. Although UMass lost guards Edgar Padilla and Carmelo Travieso, it retains a strong core with junior guard Charlton Clarke and senior forward Tyrone Weeks. Head coach James "Bruiser" Flint is in his second year on the job after taking over for current New Jersey Nets head coach John Calipari.

### 2.) Rhode Island

The Rhode Island Rams, last year's A-10 Tournament runner-up, will have a new coach and a strong chance to return to the NCAA Tournament. Coach Jim Harrick, who coached UCLA to a national championship in 1995, will have All-America candid-

date Tyson Wheeler running the point and powerful forward Antonio Reynolds-Dean under the basket. He will have a shot at a return to the big time with this talented club.

### 3.) Temple

The third power team in the A-10 East is Temple, which must endure the loss of center Marc Jackson to early departure for the NBA. Temple is normally a frontcourt team, but its backcourt of Pepe Sanchez and Rasheed Brokenborough will carry it this season.

### 4.) St. Joseph's

St. Joe's won last year's A-10 title, but since has lost four key players, and it will have a tough road to a repeat. The Hawks do return senior guard Rashid Bey (15.0 ppg), but Phil Martelli and St. Joe's should take a step back this season.

### 5.) St. Bonaventure

St. Bonaventure has had some tough seasons recently, and the team's hopes of a winning season rest on forward Rashaan Palmer (16.9 ppg). The 6-5 senior also averaged nearly six rebounds a game last season.

### 6.) Fordham

Fordham had only one conference win last season, and it is not harboring hopes of a major turnaround anytime soon. The Rams will lean on the scoring of swingman Ray Carroll and forward Maurice Curtis.

GW must face some tough competition on the way to what it hopes will be an NCAA Tournament berth. Many believe, however, that GW is as good as anyone in the conference.

# Colonial women still outclass competition in A-10

by Dustin Gouker

Asst. Sports Editor

Going undefeated in any college basketball conference in any season is a special achievement.

GW's undefeated season in the Atlantic 10 Conference last year was one of those rare gems college basketball fans are allowed to witness.

The Colonial women finished the 1996-'97 season with an amazing 16-0 record in the A-10, culminating when head coach Joe McKeown had the win-loss total shaved in his hair.

"Last year we just played really well in February and March and got on a roll," McKeown said. "That was unique."

A perfect in-conference record is probably not in the cards for this season, though GW is still by far the class of the A-10. But unlike a season ago, McKeown said he thinks the conference will be a more competitive one, especially for GW, in 1997-'98.

"The conference is pretty balanced," McKeown said. "There's no bad team in the league. And there are definitely going to be some surprises this year."

Here's how the 12 teams in the A-10 stack up (in The GW Hatchet's predicted order of finish):

## West Division

### 1.) George Washington

The Colonial women are not in danger of losing their stranglehold on the A-10 West. Even with its trio of seniors gone, GW should have little problem dispatching many of its division and out-of-division opponents.

### 2.) Xavier

Xavier is one of few schools in the conference that did not lose anything from last year's team. With no seniors graduating, the Musketeers look to move up from their fifth-place finish in the division a year ago.

"Xavier and Dayton have both improved in our division," McKeown said.

Among other players, Xavier returns Kim Hotz (9.8 ppg), an All-Rookie Team selection

last season.

### 3.) Dayton

Dayton lost four seniors to graduation, but these were largely role players, with the exception of Steph Mathu (11.4 ppg).

The Flyers do return four of their top five scorers, including All-Rookie Team selection Christi Hester (14.4 ppg). Dayton definitely has the capacity to finish better than its record of 11-16, 6-10 in the A-10, this season.

### 4.) La Salle

Though hurt by the graduation of seniors, it is hard to ignore the Explorers' 21-7 record of last season. La Salle was also semifinalist in last season's A-10 Tournament, but repeating its second-place finish in the division will be a tough task.

La Salle particularly will miss first team All-Conference selection Chrissie Donahue (17.0 ppg).

### 5.) Virginia Tech

"Virginia Tech has a lot of talent this year, and they made a coaching change," McKeown said. "They are going to be much better than they have been in the past two years."

The Lady Hokies couldn't have gotten much worse than last season, finishing last in the division with just four conference wins. Virginia Tech will look to All-Rookie team member Kim Seaver (13.7 ppg) to lead the team into the win column.

### 6.) Duquesne

While many of the A-10 schools lost marquee players, the Lady Dukes still have theirs.

Senior Korie Hlede returns to lead Duquesne for this season's campaign, and is the only returning A-10 first team All-Conference selection. Hlede has led the A-10 in scoring during all three years she's played, and last year she put up some impressive numbers: 22.6 points per game, 7.0 rebounds per game, 4.7 assists per game and 2.5 steals per game. Teams must slow Hlede to beat Duquesne.

"She is probably the best player in the

league," McKeown said. "She's a very talented kid. They (Duquesne) have her back, and that makes them a threat."

Duquesne (12-16, 8-8 A-10) lost four seniors to graduation, though, and Hlede is the only senior on the young team.

## East Division

### 1.) Massachusetts

Always a dangerous team in the A-10, the Minutewomen should fight St. Joseph's for the A-10 East.

At 18-10, 11-5 A-10, UMass finished second in the division last season, before being embarrassed in the semifinals of the A-10 Tournament by GW.

This year, UMass returns three of its top four scorers, including Kelly Van Huisen (10.4 ppg). The team will miss the play of All-Conference player Crystal Carroll (16.3 ppg) and all-time leading three-point shooter Beth Kurzmeski.

### 2.) St. Joseph's

After beating GW in the A-10 Tournament last year, the Lady Hawks joined the Colonial women in the NCAA Tournament with a record of 26-5, 15-1 A-10.

St. Joe's loses three important seniors this season, with All-Conference first team selection Megan Compain, Amy Facer and A-10 Defensive Player of the Year Milki Jones all graduated. Don't feel bad for St. Joe's, though.

"St. Joe's is always a threat in the league," McKeown said. "They have size to match our size, and they are one of the few teams that can do that."

### 3.) St. Bonaventure

The Bonnies return five seniors and four juniors from last season's team, which placed third in the division. Even experience probably won't help St. Bonaventure reach the next echelon in the A-10 East, though.

### 4.) Fordham

Fordham probably doesn't have what it takes to move up in the division, especially after losing second team All-Conference

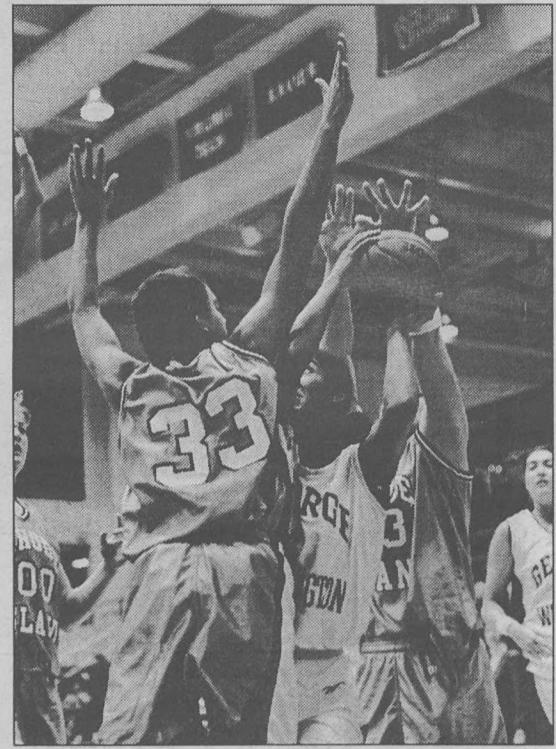
selection Suzanne Maguire.

### 5.) Rhode Island

The Lady Rams probably will finish near the bottom of the division again, considering the loss of Tasha King (17.0 ppg). Junior forward Jamie Gray (13.8 ppg) should help the team from sinking too far.

### 6.) Temple

Things look bleak for the Lady Owls, who lose five seniors and two starters from last year's team – and that team finished with just four in-conference wins. Temple will find it hard to replace forward/center Alkanese Garrett (13.2 ppg).



Claire Duggan/senior photo editor  
The Colonial women should again dominate the A-10.

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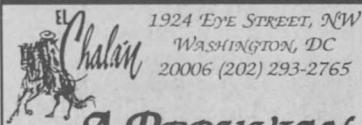
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### November

Monday	10	vs. Around the World (ex)	7:30 p.m.
<b>Red Auerbach Colonial Classic</b>			
Friday	14	vs. Howard	8:00 p.m.
Saturday	15	vs. Delaware or Siena	TBD
Wednesday	19	vs. American	7:30 p.m.
at Maui Invitational (Lahaina Civic Center, Maui, Hawaii)			
Monday	24	vs. Kentucky (ESPN)	9:30 p.m.
Tuesday	25	vs. Arizona or Boston College	TBD
Wednesday	26	vs. TBD	TBD

### December

Wednesday	3	at Texas Tech	8:00 p.m.
at Franklin National Bank Classic (MCI Center)			
Sunday	7	vs. Pennsylvania (HTS)	4:00 p.m.
Monday	8	vs. Kansas or Maryland (HTS)	TBD
<b>at U.S. Airways Holiday Classic (Patriot Center)</b>			
Saturday	13	at Old Dominion	4:00 p.m.
Saturday	20	vs. UNC Charlotte	2:00 p.m.
Saturday	27	vs. Army	6:30 p.m.
Sunday	28	vs. Northeastern or GMU	TBD

### January

Sunday	4	vs. La Salle*	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday	7	vs. Duquesne*	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	10	at Massachusetts* (A-10 TV)	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday	14	vs. Xavier* (A-10 TV)	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	18	vs. Dayton* (A-10 TV)	2:00 p.m.
Thursday	22	at Fordham*	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	24	at Duquesne* (A-10 TV)	2:00 p.m.
Saturday	31	vs. Virginia Tech*	2:00 p.m.

### February

Thursday	5	at La Salle*	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	7	at St. Joseph's* (ESPN)	12:00 p.m.
Tuesday	10	vs. Rhode Island* (ESPN2)	9:30 p.m.
Saturday	14	at Dayton*	7:30 p.m.
Monday	16	at Xavier*	7:30 p.m.
Sunday	22	vs. Temple* (A-10 TV)	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday	25	at Virginia Tech*	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	28	vs. St. Bonaventure*	2:00 p.m.

### March

Wednesday	4-7	at Atlantic 10 Tournament (CoreStates Saturday Spectrum, Philadelphia, Pa.)	
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Chasity Myers



## 1997-'98 Women's Basketball Schedule

### November

Wednesday	12	vs. Rossianka (ex)	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	18	at Georgetown	8:00 p.m.
Saturday	22	vs. N.C. State	2:00 p.m.
Wednesday	26	at U.C. Santa Barbara	7:00 p.m.
Friday	28	at UCLA	7:30 p.m.

### December

Wednesday	3	vs. American	7:00 p.m.
Monday	8	at Princeton	7:30 p.m.
Friday	19	vs. Rider	7:00 p.m.
Tuesday	30	vs. Morgan State	7:00 p.m.

### January

Friday	2	vs. Xavier*	7:00 p.m.
Sunday	4	vs. Dayton*	2:00 p.m.
Tuesday	6	at Western Kentucky	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	10	at St. Bonaventure*	2:00 p.m.
Monday	12	at Duquesne*	7:05 p.m.

Saturday	17	vs. Virginia Tech*	2:00 p.m.
Monday	19	vs. La Salle*	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	22	at Xavier*	7:00 p.m.
Saturday	24	at Dayton*	7:00 p.m.
Monday	26	vs. George Mason	7:00 p.m.
Thursday	29	at Virginia Tech*	7:00 p.m.

### February

Sunday	1	vs. St. Joseph's* (ESPN2)	4:00 p.m.
Friday	6	vs. Fordham*	7:00 p.m.
Monday	9	vs. Temple*	7:00 p.m.
Friday	13	at La Salle*	7:30 p.m.
Sunday	15	vs. Duquesne* (A-10 TV)	12:00 p.m.
Thursday	19	at Massachusetts* (A-10 TV)	7:30 p.m.
Saturday	21	at Rhode Island*	2:00 p.m.
Tuesday	24	A-10 Tournament	TBD
Thursday	26	A-10 Tournament	TBD

### March

Sunday	1	A-10 Tournament	TBD
Monday	2	A-10 Tournament	TBD

(ex)exhibition  
\*Atlantic 10 game

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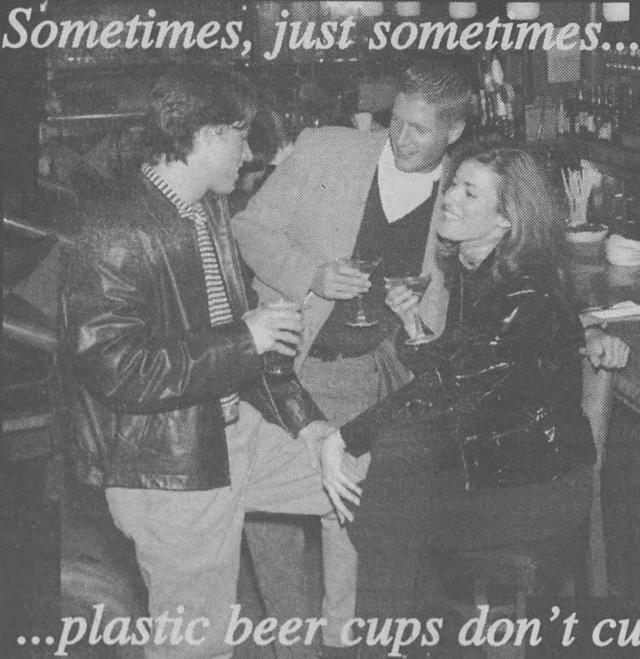
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Six-foot-eight Pat Ngongba towers over campus. The redshirt freshman left a lasting impression in his GW debut Nov. 3.

Claire Duggan/senior photo editor

## Bashful Ngongba ready for season

by Claire Duggan  
Senior Sports Writer

### Friday, Oct. 31

It's Halloween, and while many students may have a night of heavy partying planned, freshman Pat Ngongba most likely will take it easy.

Ngongba said he's tired from a hectic schedule, so he's just going to hang out with his friends this Friday night.

While most GW students also claim to be busy, they probably do not need as much rest as Ngongba does this weekend. That's because Monday night is the first basketball game as a Colonial for this 6-7 forward from the Republic of Central Africa.

Although it's only an exhibition game, Ngongba said he has been looking forward to Monday night for a long time. He was ineligible to play last year, so GW's first game against Court Authority will be his debut.

"I just had to deal with it," Ngongba said about sitting out last year. "I knew one day my time would come."

### Choosing the Colonial way

The 20-year-old Pat Ngongba came to the United States when he

was 17 to attend high school at Calvert Hall in Baltimore, Md.

He said the hardest part of being in this country is that he misses his family. He said he gets to talk to them often, though.

In the Republic of Central Africa, French is the language spoken. Through classes, but mostly just from being here, Ngongba has learned English.

"I had to," Ngongba said. "I live and study here."

Ngongba said in addition to the two years spent playing for Calvert Hall, he learned a lot about American-style basketball from summer leagues and camps.

It was on one such summer league team that Ngongba met fellow Colonial Shawnta Rogers. He said it was one of the reasons he chose GW over other universities like Duke and Houston, which also had an interest in him.

"I knew he was coming here and I was excited," Rogers said. "We're good friends, and now we're roommates."

Ngongba said the other reason for wanting to play for GW was because he became interested in the program while in Baltimore.

"I saw a lot of GW games on TV," he said.

### Monday, Nov. 3

Ngongba tucks his head down

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and giggles, showing his genuinely bashful side. He is at the press conference following his first game. A reporter has just asked him about his chiseled muscles, the ones that make him look like he should be playing in the NBA.

"Have they always looked like that?"

"I don't know," Ngongba answers in a barely audible voice, smiling the entire time.

Ngongba has many reasons to smile.

His 12 points, six rebounds and two blocks in 27 minutes against Court Authority come close to his stats at Calvert Hall. There he averaged 13.9 points, seven rebounds and 2.5 blocks per game.

"I was a bit nervous at first, but then I got going," Ngongba said.

Ngongba was one-for-one from three-point range, and of his five attempted field goals, he missed only one.

At one point in the first half, when Ngongba blocked one of Court Authority's shots, he hit the ball so hard that it shot into the bleachers. The crowd seemed impressed.

"He's more aggressive, bigger and smarter," Rogers said of the difference between Ngongba's play tonight and how he remembers him from his Baltimore days.

"He loves the game of basketball," head coach Mike Jarvis said. "He brings enthusiasm to the team. He's going to have a great career here."

Jarvis said he knew Ngongba would "be productive" and that Ngongba should get "all the praise and credit he deserves."

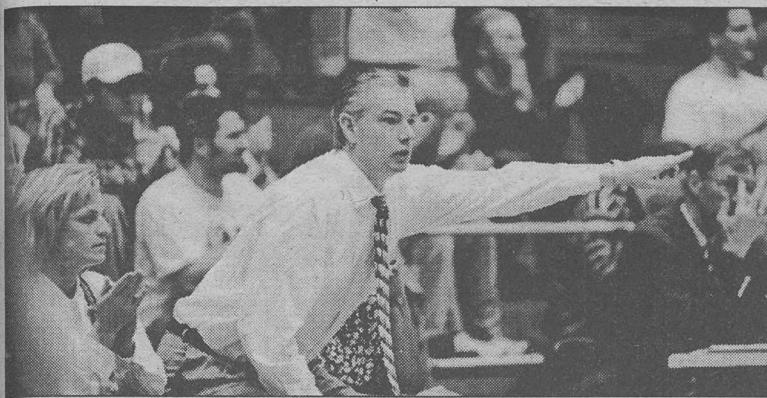
### On sleeping

Ngongba said he feels no pressure from expectations that may have been placed on him since last year.

"I've learned that if you do your work, you'll be all right," Ngongba said.

Although Ngongba did mention he's particularly excited for the Maui Invitational, he said he looks forward to the whole season, from "the exhibition game to the end."

He'll need a lot of rest to stay strong through months of games, practice and classes. Even though some of his spare time will be spent hanging out with friends, watching movies and touring D.C., Ngongba said he'll spend his free time "mostly sleeping."



Tyson Trish/editor in chief

**Coach Joe McKeown will be counting on contributions from a strong freshman class.**

## Freshmen will help GW make up for lost seniors

by Maureen Benitz

Hatchet Sports Writer

The GW women's basketball team seeks to improve on an amazing performance last season with the help of newcomers. A solid group of first-year players look to add depth to the Colonial women and bring them closer to the NCAA Tournament.

Petra Dubovcova and Katarina Baskova both played for the Junior National Team in Slovakia. In July, their team won the bronze medal at the Junior Women's Championship in Brazil. Dubovcova is a 6-3 forward/center, while Baskova is a 6-0 forward.

"Petra can run, she can shoot threes, she can post you up. Offensively she is going to be a weapon," head coach Joe McKeown said. "Katarina is trying to make the adjustment to the style we play. She is one of the best pure shooters we have, and she plays a couple of positions too."

Another international newcomer should have an immediate impact on the Colonial women. Elisa Aguilar, who is the starting point guard for the Spanish National Team, should get a good deal of playing time beside returning guards Chasity Myers and Marlo Egleston.

"Our international players have played a lot of basketball, so they have played more basketball than the normal freshman in the United States," McKeown said.

Leslie Carlson, who hails from Newington, Conn. will serve as a backup center for the Colonial women.

"She is a center trying to adjust to college basketball," McKeown said of the 6-4 freshman. "She needs the repetitions each day and the contact of a physical nature. She'll be able to help us right away with her size."

Carlson earned many honors and awards in high school. During her junior and senior years, she was named to the All-Conference Team. During her senior year, when she served as captain of the varsity team, she was given the NBA Sportsmanship Award and was named to the Blue Star Top 100.

"Last year's team went to the Elite Eight. We have the potential to go as far, if not farther, this year. I want to be a part of what is going on," Carlson said. "The team all gets along great. Even though we are a very international team, we all get along."

Another key newcomer is guard Corrin Reid, from Alexandria, Va. She graduated from T.C. Williams High School with many honors. In her senior year, she was named second team All-Metro and first team All-Region. Also, she tied for the number one position on the first team All-District.

"I want to stay healthy this season, and I want to help the team in any way that I can," Reid said. "My team is my family away from home. They are a great bunch of girls."

-Dustin Gouker contributed to this report

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## Three freshmen to have immediate impact on Colonials in 1997-'98

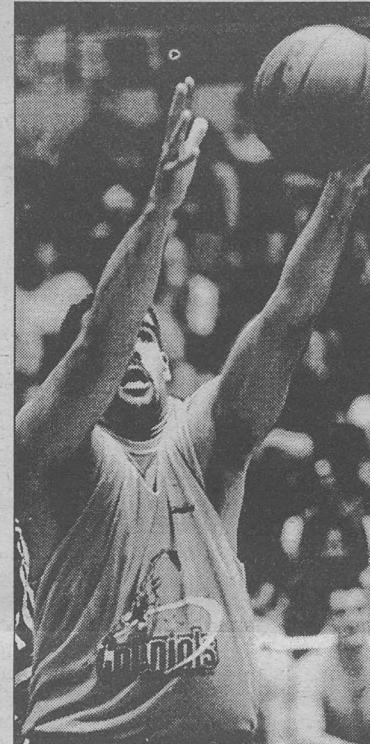
by Clay Fisher

Hatchet Sports Reporter

The arrival of three exciting newcomers should have an immediate impact on the GW men's basketball team in 1997-98.

Patrick Ngongba, who sat out last season for academic reasons, Antxon Iturbe, who played at one of the best high schools in the country, and Roey Eyal, a member of the under-22 Israeli National Team, all will be impact players, according to head coach Mike Jarvis.

"Patrick Ngongba, Antxon Iturbe



Tyson Trish/editor in chief

**Antxon Iturbe**

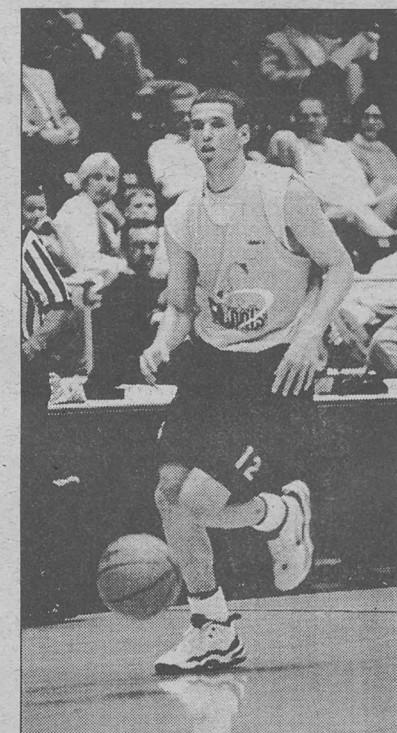
and Roey Eyal aren't like regular freshmen. They're seasoned, older and wiser," Jarvis said. "I think they all bring different things to the table. Antxon and Patrick are two very good inside power players, and Roey Eyal is a guy who can play both the one or two position."

The freshman class is led by power forward Patrick Ngongba (Gong-buh). A native of Bangui, Central African Republic, Ngongba led Calvert Hall School to its second straight Maryland State title two years ago, averaging 14 points, 7 rebounds and 2.5 blocks. After red-shirting last season, Ngongba has gained essential basketball skills under the guidance of Jarvis. Ngongba's 6-8, 230-pound chiseled frame will demand immediate attention from opponents.

Antxon Iturbe (An-chone E-TUR-bay) is a true freshman from Basque, Spain. Iturbe averaged 10.6 points and 7.1 rebounds a game his senior year for St. John's Prospect Hall. He led Prospect Hall to a No. 3 national ranking in the USA Today High School Super 25 poll. Not only is he a good basketball player, Iturbe also has demonstrated solid academics, including ranking in the top 10 of his senior class and being selected for membership in the National Honor Society.

Iturbe is a 6-8, 250-pound hard-nosed power forward. Iturbe has learned from his older brother, Iker, who plays under Rick Barnes at Clemson. With the loss of Ferdinand Williams, Iturbe will be called upon to add depth to the frontcourt.

Roey Eyal (Roy eh-YAL) rounds out this impressive recruiting class. Eyal is a 6-3, 165-pound, 21-year-old freshman who averaged 22 points



Tyson Trish/editor in chief

**Roey Eyal**

and seven assists a game in leading Boyer High School to a 24-0 record and a championship title in Jerusalem. After spending three years in the Israeli army, Eyal traveled to Bulgaria as a member of the Israeli under-22 National Team. Eyal is projected to come off the bench and provide backcourt support.

When asked what attracted Jarvis to the international players, he responded, "Basketball is a universal game. I recruit players, and I pick the best basketball players that fit the GW profile - good student athletes that happen to be good basketball players."



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# Abraham, McCrea, Cermignano find success after GW

**GW greats move on, but don't lose touch**

by Matt Berger  
Hatchet Sports Writer

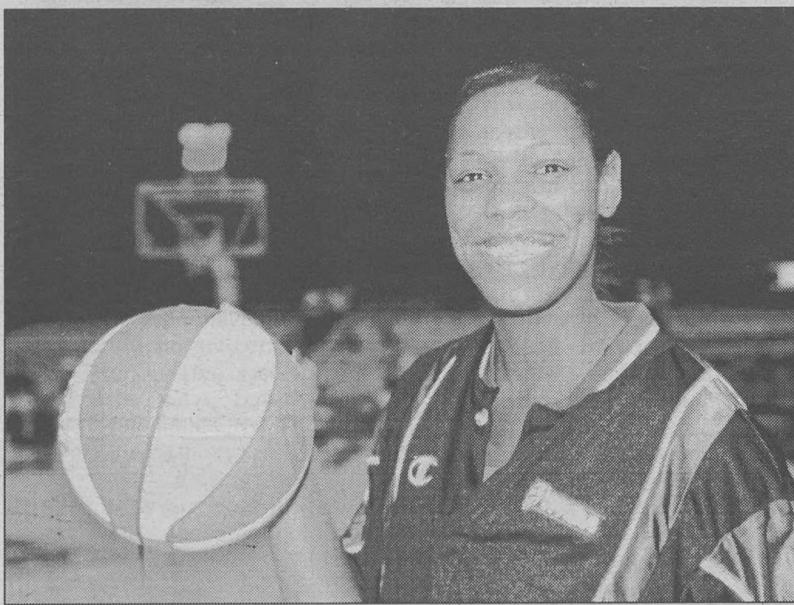
Lisa Cermignano, Tajama Abraham and Colleen McCrea stood on stage at Commencement last May and were honored by the University and President Clinton.

Just six months later, the three senior standouts, who led a talented GW women's basketball team to the Elite Eight of the NCAA Tournament last season, have left GW, entered the real world and are making names for themselves once again.

### On the court

Abraham was back doing what she knows best this summer. A founding member of WNBA Sacramento Monarchs, she played in 28 games and started in five.

Tajama Abraham, GW's all-time leading scorer, played in all 28 games this summer for the WNBA's Sacramento Monarchs.



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WNBA again next season, Stockton said.

### In another world

Cermignano didn't wander far from the basketball court or the Washington area when she accepted a position as an assistant coach for the Maryland Lady Terrapins this summer.

"It's another world," Cermignano said from her office at Cole Field House. "It's something I've always had an interest in, and I think I can learn a lot."

But the transition from player to coach is hard for Cermignano, who was seventh in the nation last year in three-point shooting percentage.

"I'm learning that coaching is a lot of standing," she said. "It's hard this year for me to have to relate things to the players, instead of just doing it."

Cermignano, who had ankle surgery over the summer, said she would love to come back to GW as a coach.

"To be considered for a job there would be pretty neat," she said. "It would be great to go back there."

### Behind the desk

For McCrea, who led the Atlantic 10 conference in steals and assists last season, playing basketball was easy compared to taking the Certified Public Accountant exam, which she struggled with last week.

"It's the hardest thing I've done in my life," McCrea said of the test.

After a relaxing summer in New Jersey, McCrea is working for the auditing department of Price Waterhouse in Washington, and spent the last three and a half months studying for the CPA test.

"Getting through it the first time is an accomplishment by itself," McCrea said. "I have no



Tyson Trish/editor in chief  
Coach Joe McKeown (Left) stands with Colleen McCrea, Lisa Cermignano and Tajama Abraham at last year's Commencement.

idea how I did."

McCrea said she is not surprised her two peers are still in the sport, and that she's the one moving on.

"I was always the serious one," she said. "I'm glad they're there, it makes me feel like I'll always be a part of it."

McCrea said she will also be active in youth basketball after work settles down.

### Still Colonials

The three were more than teammates the last four years — they were close friends who still keep in touch.

McCrea and Cermignano say they talk on the phone almost daily and kept in touch with Abraham when she was in the country.

All three also keep in touch with Coach Joe McKeown.

McCrea attended Friday's practice and looked forward to coming to a game.

"I would hope that I wouldn't have to pay for a ticket," she joked.

McCrea said it would be weird to watch a game at the Smith Center and not play.

"It hasn't hit me yet that we're never doing it again," McCrea said.

For Cermignano, getting to a game may be difficult, but it is high on her priority list.

"It's just a matter of time until I come to a game or practice," she said. "It was just a great feeling for four years."

But no matter where they are, the women said they will keep their GW spirit.

"I cheer GW and love GW and always will," Cermignano said. "You can't beat the Colonials!"

# Koul and Rogers ready to lead a GW revival

by Dan Stoeckel  
Hatchet Sports Reporter

Leadership and heart are two intangible aspects of athletics. The ability of a leader to motivate the entire team and bring the players to another level is a vital aspect of a winner.

This year, Shawnta Rogers and Alexander Koul will have their leadership skills put to the test by the GW men's basketball team. Koul and Rogers will be looked to for leadership both on and off the court by a GW team that fell short of its goals last year.

Rogers has dreams of glory for his team. He says his personal goals are tied to those of his team, and that he plans to provide the spark to achieve those goals.

"I want to run the team. We can win the division and take it all," he said without an ounce of doubt in his voice. The confidence and focus that Rogers brings to the Colonial team on and off the court will be a huge factor in its success this season.

Alexander Koul is also a man of impressive mental and physical strength. The 7-1 center is entering his senior year in a do-or-die situation with regard to the future of his career.

"My future depends on my performance this year," he said.

However, Koul maintains a level-headed demeanor. "(Pressure) is something I've gotten used to. I've played with it throughout my life." Koul also values the success of the team over his personal quest for greatness.

"My goals are the goals of the team. We want to win every game and improve step by step," Koul said. Rogers and Koul both exude optimism about the capability of this year's team.

"In my years here I think this is the best team I've been a part of," Koul said.

"We're looking real good, practicing hard and working as a team," Rogers said.

If one consistent problem plagued last year's team it was sporadic play. Rogers said this will not be a problem in the upcoming season.

"Last year we had chemistry in spurts, not all the way. This year we're working together and helping each other out. We can play well as a team all year," he said.

Koul cited one other factor that should weigh heavily on the outcome of this season.

"Last year we came into it (season) with a lot of expectations," he said. "We don't have that this year, so we have to go out and prove ourselves. It's a good motivation to go out and play hard."

# With healthy knee, Green ready for stellar senior season at GW

by Dave Adler  
Senior Sports Writer

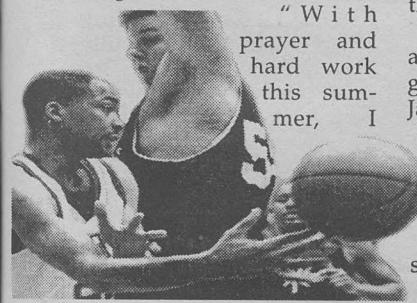
He flies through the air with the greatest of ease – or at least he does when his knee is healthy. Fortunately for the GW men's basketball team, Darin Green's knee is finally healthy, and fans can once again expect to be riveted to the high-flying senior.

The Charlotte, N.C. native averaged just 10 minutes and 2.6 points a game last year. Green promises that his knee is healed, and his famed transition dunks already have rocked the Smith Center at GW's first preseason game.

"My big thing is excitement," Green said. "Not only do the dunks excite the crowd, but I get excited off of them, and my teammates do also."

However, as Green puts it, his legs "were taken away" last year. After missing the month of December, Green came back and scored just 28 points combined in the last 14 games.

*With prayer and hard work this summer, I*



In fact, Green said that the team

strengthened my leg up. I played on it all summer and I feel pretty healthy. Thank God," Green said.

Green says the injury has given him time to improve his game. He said that when the injury hit, he realized he had to find new skills beyond his jumping ability.

"The injury has enabled me to step up my game further. It has enabled me to make my game a little more rounded."

This season Green has not only regained his legs, but also a starting spot. This allows Green to take his off-the-court leadership, which made him one of the team captains, and move it on to the court. However, the unassuming Green said it does not matter how much or when he plays.

"I really don't get into the whole 'starting thing.' Sometimes the starting role seems to be more of a status issue. I just want to contribute, whether it be as a starter or a sixth man," Green said.

Head coach Mike Jarvis said he realizes how important Green is to the team.

"What you see in Darin Green is a man who didn't quit ... When he's got his fresh legs, he's pretty good," Jarvis said.

It is tough to get Green to tell you he is vital to GW's aspirations to be a top-20 team.

"No one person can do it. We're all going to have to step up," Green said.

In fact, Green said that the team

has already signed a "compact" to reach the ultimate college basketball goal.

"The first thing we have on the compact is to win the national championship, but we realize things come one step at a time."

The Colonials are strong inside and are desperately looking for an outside shooter. If Green can establish himself as a clutch jump-shooter, GW actually may fulfill its compact.

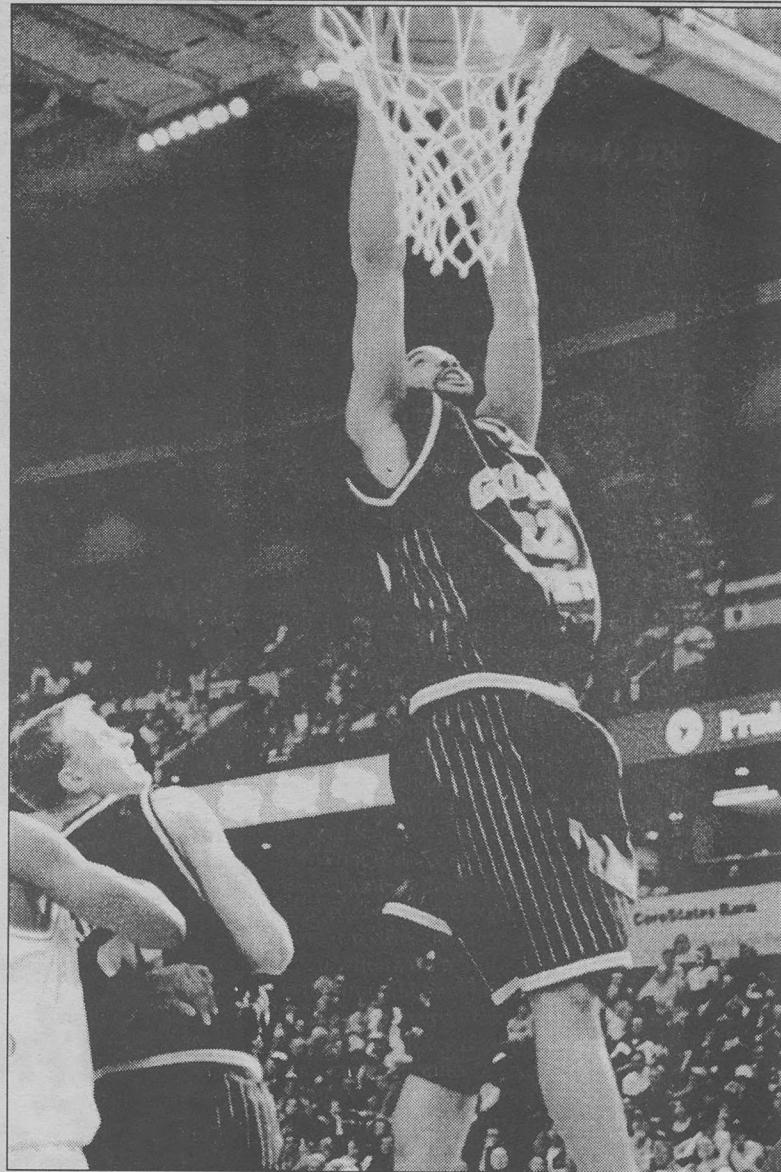
Green said his game is not complete, particularly on the defensive end. He said he works specifically on getting into passing lanes to disrupt the opposition's offense.

Green has a difficult task as leader of the most diverse team in the country. However, he said he enjoys the different nationalities his team features.

"I see it as a bonus," he said. He added that the experience has opened him up to the idea of continuing his career overseas.

Green says he has several goals to complete before a professional career. One is to earn his degree in sociology, with a minor in psychology. Graduate school is not out of the question for Green. He is considering future studies in social work or sports marketing.

If GW is to win the Atlantic 10 and make a run through the NCAA Tournament, Darin Green's defense, shooting and leadership must be just as stirring as his slam dunks.



With a healthy knee, Darin Green has regained his athleticism, allowing him to energize the Colonials with dunks like this one in last year's A-10 Tournament.

Claire Duggan/senior photo editor

# Noelia Gomez is ready for second year at GW

by Jamie Lin  
Hatchet Sports Writer

A year ago, GW women's basketball star Noelia Gomez was a stranger in a place she now calls home. Still thinking of her mother's cooking in Madrid, Spain, Gomez had no idea what was in store for her at GW.

Atlantic 10 Rookie of the Year. Second team A-10 All-Conference Team. A-10 All-Rookie Team. A-10 All-Tournament Team. Her growing list of accolades goes along with being part of the first GW team to advance to the NCAA Tournament's Elite Eight.

"For me, being on the first team in GW to get so far in the NCAA – we made a record, doing something that nobody in GW did before – that's what I'm most proud of," Gomez said.

But that was last year, and Gomez is back with a year of experience under her belt. As much as last year was a surprise, this year could bring even more excitement.

"I think that the difference is that now I have last year's experience, and now I know more about the United States and about GW. It's kind of easier – I'm adapted here and last year everything was new," Gomez said.

While Gomez may be used to the city and school, she now must acquaint herself with six new teammates.

"We have a new team. I think it's completely different from last year.

Right now we don't know too much about each other," Gomez said. But Gomez said she feels the team is improving and getting to know each other better every day.

"I think we have a very nice team this year. I think we have a more balanced team right now. We are better than last year, we are practicing better than last year, and we are closer," she said.

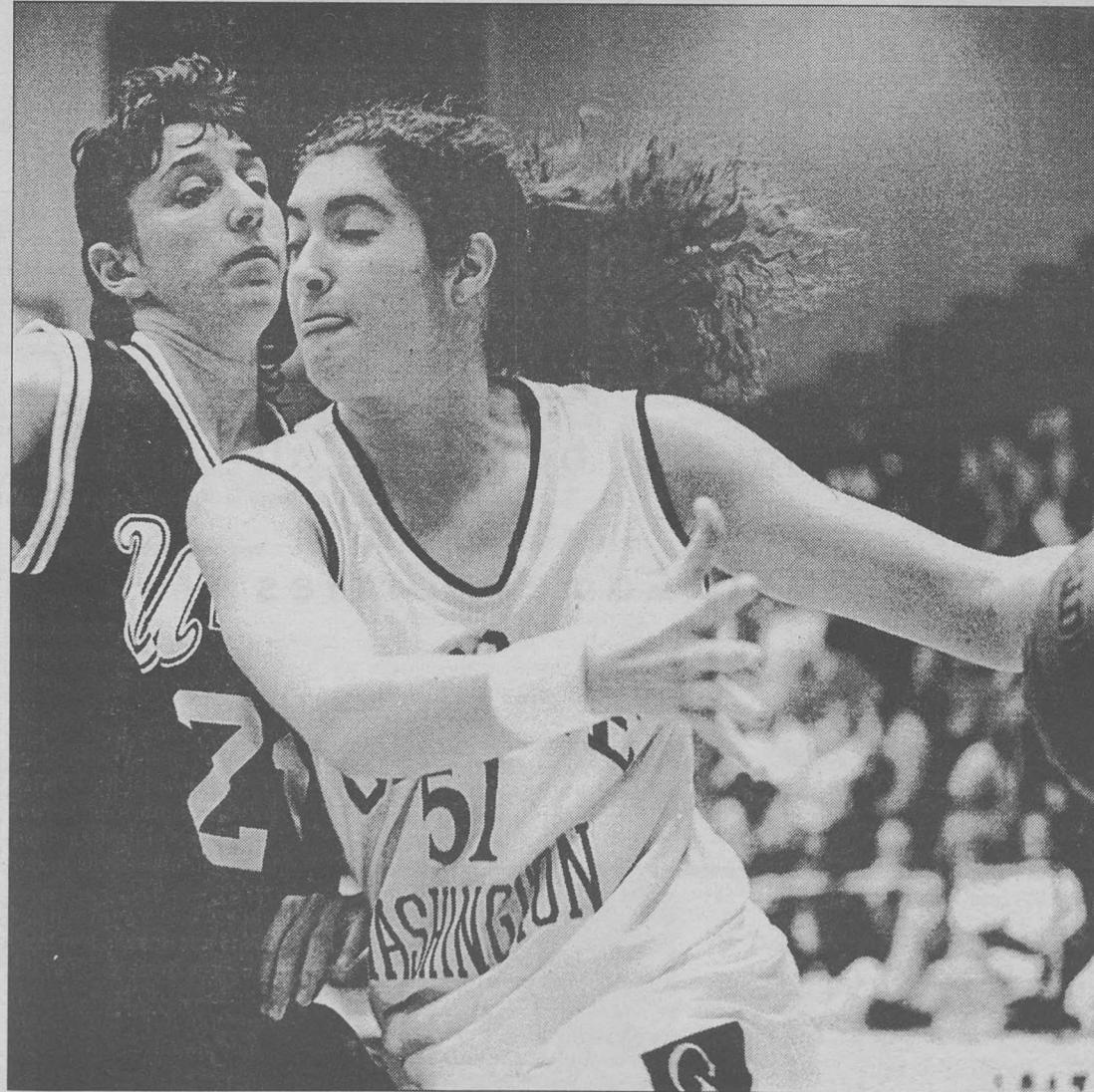
As a returnee from last year's squad, Gomez has switched roles and is helping the younger players adjust to college basketball.

"This year we have no seniors, so I guess the juniors have to be like the seniors," Gomez said. "I think what I have to do this year is to try to help the team, do my best, and try to be like a senior – try to help as much as I can."

On the court the 6-3 forward should continue to be a dominant presence. After being fourth in the A-10 in scoring last year, averaging 17.5 points per game and finishing second in field goal percentage at 52.6, Gomez is expected to continue scoring for the Colonial women.

Gomez was also strong on the boards, finishing ninth in the conference, averaging seven rebounds per game.

"I think what I have to do is just be in every game, concentrate. I need to rebound, I need to score, I need to play defense, I need to do everything," Gomez said. "But not only me, we have a team – we don't have individual players – we have team players and everybody has to do each thing."



Tyson Trish/editor in chief

Junior Noelia Gomez will be the main scorer for the Colonial women this season.

**Dec. 7th**

1:30pm

Maryland vs. Kansas

4:00pm

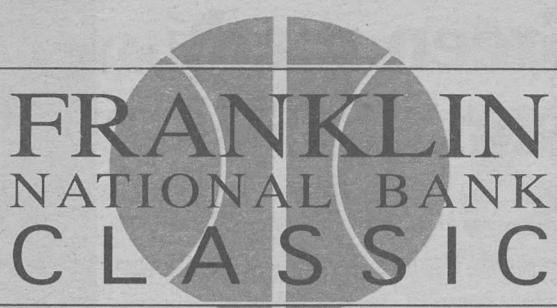
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